



Inside

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VICTORY
SPORTS
SERIES

Wrestling

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WWF CHAMPION!
What Would
This Mean
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**STAN HANSEN:
"NOBODY'S TOUGHER
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IS LEX LUGAR
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BARRY WINDHAM?**

**No Friends, No Future . . .
AND CHRIS ADAMS
DESERVES WHAT'S
COMING TO HIM!**



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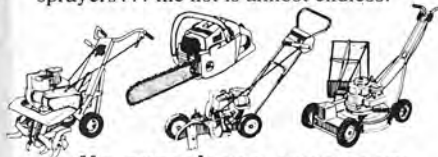
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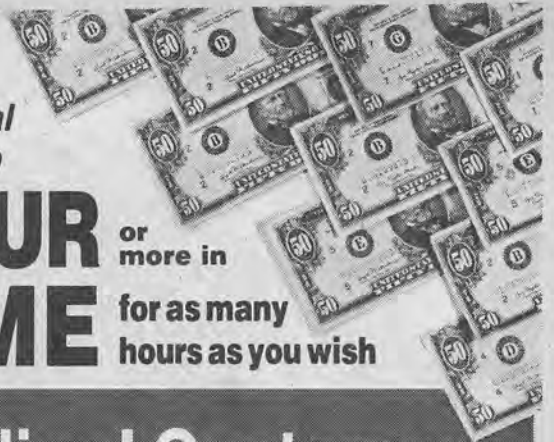
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Ques. If yours is such a great business, how come it has never been done before?

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Ques. When's the best time of the year to get into this sort of business?

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Ques. You say rich and poor are my customers. How can poor persons afford to pay so much?

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Once you get started people will come to you!

We wish we could tell you everything... then we KNOW FOR SURE you'll respond enthusiastically and immediately. But if we did, there are a number of drawbacks. (1) It would require too much space in this ad. (2) It might affect our ability to limit the number of persons using our idea. (3) We believe having our kit in your hands and evaluating the contents is worth a thousand words in an advertisement like this one which you might read on the run in competition with the interesting contents of this publication. We'd rather send you the kit after receiving your \$10. Then we know you will give our idea all the thought it deserves, knowing that your money is only held temporarily, pending your wholehearted approval of our program.

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Please... if you think we are exaggerating... wouldn't it be foolish for us to do so knowing that we've got a lot to prove? All we have to do is disappoint you just one little bit and we'll have to return your money. But it's the truth... the gospel truth! Our's is a MONEY-MAKING IDEA whose time has come. It's Right ON! It's as timely as the space shuttle and as much needed as fresh milk! It won't take you long to find out we're telling it like it is when we say PEOPLE ARE WAITING. If you think making \$50 an hour is an idle claim, we are deliberately understating because you can make more than that if you want to. You can actually decide how much yourself. We're truly anxious for you to try us because we're THAT certain that once you do, you will see that we are sincere and we really DO have something wonderful for you. All it takes is for you to fill out the form below. You must be of legal age. And you must be on the level and genuinely desirous of making REAL money... by being money-minded, ambitious and dedicated to bettering yourself. We want learners and earners and would appreciate it if the "simply curious" would save our time and their's.

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INSIDE

Wrestling

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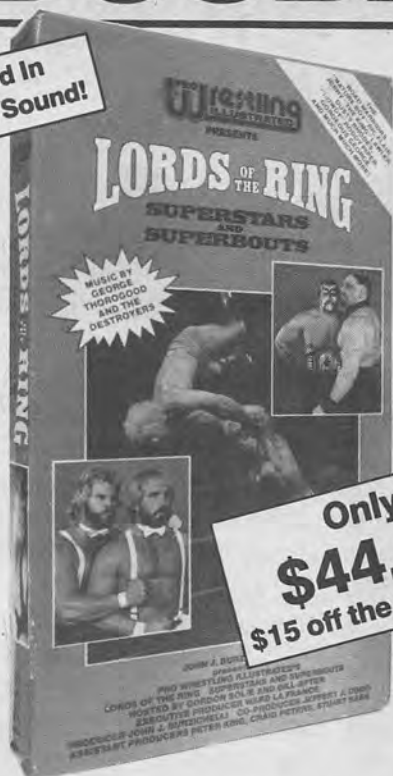
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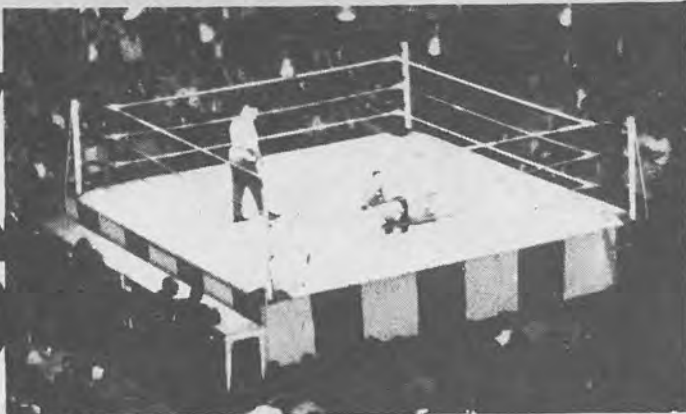
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SEND LETTERS TO

SINCERELY YOURS

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NWA champion Ric Flair is always surrounded by women (and sometimes Wonderdogs, as well). Nature Boy, not Magnum T.A., is the man of Martha Mabe's dreams.

LADIES' MAN

I am writing this letter in response to a remark made by announcer David Crockett recently. The remark concerned Magnum T.A. I quote: "Magnum T.A. is every woman's dream." Well, Mr. Crockett, Magnum T.A. is not my idea of a dream. I dream about one man and one man only and his name is Nature Boy Ric Flair.

If Magnum T.A. ever appeared in my dreams, I would wake up in a terrified sweat, screaming. I go to sleep every night and dream about the best-looking man in professional wrestling, and of course all the women know I'm talking about Ric Flair.

Ric Flair has more style and class and is 10,000 times better-looking than Magnum T.A.

Ric is the NWA champion, something he toiled long and hard for. Magnum is the U.S. champion, but only after he cheated the great Tully Blanchard for the title. In the "I quit" match in which Magnum won the title, Tully Blanchard never said the words "I quit." I know. I was there.

Ric Flair, Tully Blanchard, and the Andersons will do the wrestling world a favor when they get rid of Dusty Rhodes and Magnum T.A. Ric Flair is the number one wrestler in the world and in all of the ladies' hearts.

MARTHA MABE
Martinsville, VA

SUPERFLY REMEMBERED ...

I don't know what happened to "Superfly" Jimmy Snuka, but I do

know it's not right that such a fantastic wrestler should fade into oblivion. The Superfly's matches against Bob Backlund, Roddy Piper, and Don Muraco are all WWF classics. During the dismal last year of Backlund's boring title reign, Sunka was the only thing that kept me tuned in to the WWF. Hulk Hogan revitalized the federation when he won the WWF belt, but that doesn't mean the Superfly should be cast aside.

Jimmy Snuka is a tremendous asset to any wrestling organization. The WWF seems to be trying to replace Snuka with King Tonga, and that's like substituting a lump of coal for a diamond. I hope Snuka's days in the WWF aren't over, but if they are, he would be wise to try the NWA or AWA. The Superfly would have an excellent chance of dethroning Ric Flair or Stan Hansen.

MIKE FACCIANI
Johnstown, PA

... AND BACKLUND, TOO

I'm a dedicated Bob Backlund fan and am completely baffled about what has happened to him in the past couple of years. First, the WWF World title is literally stolen from him and he gets no rematch. Instead, the WWF bounces him for no good reason and he winds up in the obscurity of the AWA. Then I learn that he is out of professional wrestling altogether and has become a college wrestling coach at a small Connecticut university.

Something is drastically wrong here! Obviously, many fans, in the wake of such glitzy, hyped-up characters like
(Continued on page 50)

An ATLAS BODY? In 7 days

my method of **DYNAMIC-TENSION** starts giving you results you can feel and your friends will notice. Big, useful muscles. Gain pounds in weight where needed.

Lose "pot belly." Take a good honest look at yourself! Are you proud of your body — or are you satisfied to go through life being just "half the man" you could be? No matter how ashamed you are of your present physical condition — or how old or young you are — the "sleeping" muscles already present in your body can turn you into a **REAL** man! Believe me, I know — because I was once a skinny, scrawny 97-pound half-alive weakling! People used to laugh at my build and make fun of me. I was ashamed to strip for sports or the beach... shy of girls... afraid of healthy competition.

HOW I CHANGED FROM A 97 LB. WEAKLING TO A REAL MAN.

One day, I discovered a secret that changed me from a timid, frightened scarecrow into "The World's Most Perfectly Developed Man" — a "magic formula" that can help turn you, too, into a marvellous physical specimen... a **REAL** man from head to toe... a man who **STANDS OUT** in any crowd! What's my secret? "**DYNAMIC-TENSION**" — the natural method! No theory. No gadgets or contraptions. You just do as I did. Simply take the "sleeping" muscles already present inside your own body — build them up — use them every day in walking, bending over, reaching, even sitting! Almost before you know it, you're covered with a brand-new suit of beautiful, rock-hard **SOLID MUSCLE!**
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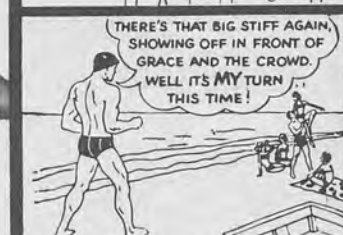
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EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Peter
King

Editor-in-Chief

In 1985, Magnum T.A. engaged in match after match with Tully Blanchard, a man who is his darkest opposite. The U.S. title was the prize, and T.A. and Tully exchanged the belt several times. The price of the strap was costly, and it was always paid for in blood. As every wrestling fan knows, T.A. ultimately regained the belt with a convincing victory at Starrcade. The win at Starrcade did more for Magnum T.A. than just recrown him U.S. champion. It seemed to put his war against Tully at a cease fire. Hatred between the two still runs high, but Blanchard now finds himself enmeshed in another feud. Events beyond Tully's control—and events caused because of Tully's lack of control—have forced him to forgo T.A. for a series of bouts against Dusty Rhodes.

But this is not to say that Magnum T.A. now finds himself without any prospective challengers. Quite the contrary, actually. In fact, T.A. is currently bracing for the toughest opponent of his career—Nikita Koloff.

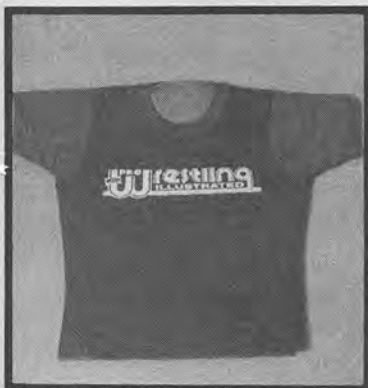
Koloff established himself as a fierce force in 1985 despite the fact that it was his rookie season. He even challenged for Ric Flair's NWA title, and came very close to winning it. This year, his mentors have another route planned for him.

His goal in 1986 is T.A.'s U.S. belt. Koloff's braintrust knows it would be a major embarrassment to this country to have a Russian owning the championship of the United States. After an energy-sapping feud against Blanchard, can T.A. find the strength to turn back the mighty Koloff?

T.A. is currently in intensive training, as he is well aware of the challenge ahead of him. But many experts fear that his 1985 war against Blanchard may have been too brutal to rebound from.

The awesome specter of Nikita Koloff looms like a giant shadow. Magnum T.A. says he's fit and ready. It's going to be one hell of a fight.

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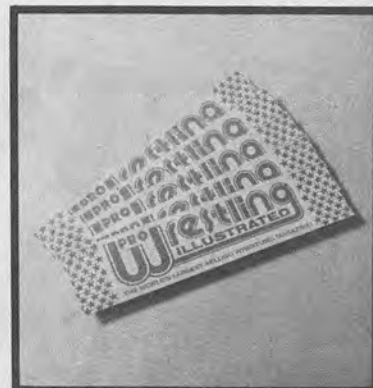
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'TOP SECRET'

Behind the Dressing Room Door

by Stu
Saks

IT'S A FEUD unlike any other in professional wrestling. It is not fought in a ring or a cage or even on a scaffold. This feud has not received the publicity of Kevin Von Erich vs. Chris Adams or Hulk Hogan vs. Randy Savage. Yet it is equally—if not more—dangerous. There are no holds in this feud and no holds barred. There is no referee, no timekeeper, and no end in sight.

This feud is a private one. It is being fought within the heart and mind of a man most of us don't like nor care much about. But is worth considering because he is among the strongest forces in the sport today.

The worst times in Krusher Khrushchev's life are the times other wrestlers appreciate the most—when he doesn't have to wrestle or work out or travel; when he gets to lie in bed and forget about the brutal lifestyle of a professional wrestler. That's when Khrushchev has time to think and that's when the ugly feud resumes.

Krusher Khrushchev has had a lot of time to think lately, having suffered a injury to his right leg that has him bedridden for a while. Now that I've seen him away from the ring in a quiet setting, I am convinced that the pain he suffered at the hands of The Road Warriors pales in comparison to the mental pain he has inflicted upon himself since he disgarded his identity as Krusher Darsow and disgarded the ideals that brought him into adulthood.

I tend to forget that this man who wears a hammer and sickle on his wrestling tights and pals around with Ivan and Nikita Koloff is actually an American from Thief River Falls, Minnesota. When he
(Continued on page 54)

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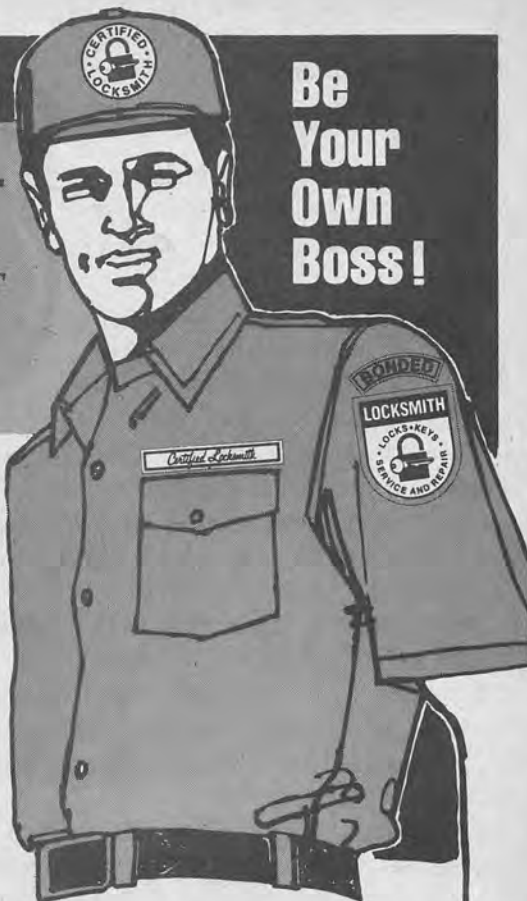
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LET ME TELL you about a hero. My paperback edition of the *Oxford American Dictionary* defines "hero" as: *a man who is admired for his brave or noble deeds.*

By that definition—and just about any other definition you're likely to come up with—"Dr. Death" Steve Williams is a genuine hero.

Last November 29, in the very early morning, Williams and fellow wrestler Rob Ricksteiner were driving from Houston to Alexandria, Louisiana.

"Rob was driving," Williams said. "We were on U.S. 90 going to Alexandria, and frankly, I was sound asleep, snoring away. Rob nudged me in the ribs, woke me up, and told me to look at the bonfire that was coming up in the distance.

"But it wasn't a bonfire," Williams continued, "it was an automobile accident."

Coincidentally, the car right behind the two wrestlers was a Louisiana State Police car. The two cars pulled over, and within seconds another police car had joined the scene.

An automobile had collided with a pickup truck. The two vehicles were engulfed in fire, and flames from the car's gas tanks were shooting 50 feet and more into the air.

"There were three men in the car and two in the truck," Williams said. "Me and Rob went over to the



Williams: 1986's Most Inspirational?

car, and we could see that the driver was already dead, but that there was one guy alive in the front seat, pinned by the seat, and another guy alive in the back seat. Well, we tore out the window, got a grip on the door, and yanked the thing right off the car."

Not a particularly easy feat. Especially when there are 50-foot flames inches

away from your body. "We pulled the two guys out of the front seat," Williams continued, "then I had to pull the seat back so Rob could get the guy out of the back seat."

At that point, Williams and Ricksteiner had to encounter another major obstacle: Bullets began zipping past their heads.

"Damn, looking back on it, it was really something,"

ON THE ROAD

with
CRAIG PETERS

Williams said. "There were guns and ammo in the pickup, and when the fire got to it all, the ammo started flying. It was like being in a war zone. We had to duck down low so we wouldn't get hit. I didn't really think about it until later. Me and Rob managed to get a good look into the pickup truck, but the two guys there were burned beyond recognition. It was pretty frightening."

As Williams explained, "There were police officers there, but they didn't have to ask us to help out. You know, Rob

says he doesn't feel like a hero, and neither do I. I'd want someone else to help me out if I were in that position. I mean, there was just nobody else there who could do anything, who could get that door open. We just snatched it right off the hinges, it was like an instinct."

Of the five men involved in the accident, only one—a 20-year-old man—survived. Yet he would also have died if not for the bravery of Williams and Ricksteiner.

Interesting to note is the fact that it took nearly a month and a half before anyone at *Inside Wrestling* learned of the incident.

"Hey, we're not out there looking to publicize ourselves as heroes," Williams said, "we just did what we thought was right. We never thought about telling anybody. I don't think we're anything special because of what we did."

Williams paused a moment. "You know, though, there is one message I *would* like to get across now. Seeing that accident has made me think a lot recently about this. Please, everyone, if you're driving, buckle up those seat belts. For God's sake, *please* buckle up."

JAPANESE UPDATE: First of all, I want to thank everyone who responded so enthusiastically to my March 1986 "On The Road" concerning the professional wrestling scene in Japan. As a result of your responses, you'll be seeing more news on the Japanese wrestling scene in Bill Apter's "Names Makin' News" and in Bill's other news column in our sister publications. And maybe once or twice a year, you can look to this space for a more in-depth look at the Japanese wrestling scene.

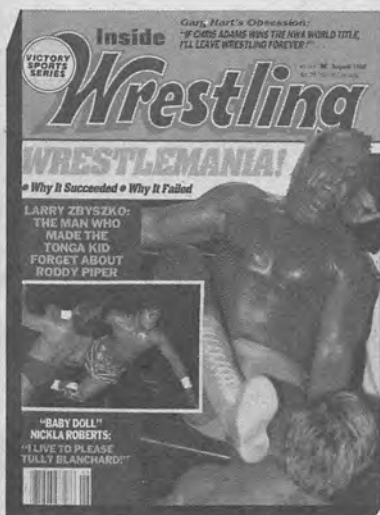
Also, if you look at this issue's "Roll Call Of Champions," you'll see that the various WWF International champions are no longer listed. That is because the WWF's promotional agreement with New Japan Pro Wrestling has been terminated; the WWF plans to begin its own expansion programs in Japan, similar to what it's done in the United States. In any event, the added space in the "Roll Call" allows us to present the International Wrestling Grand Prix titles, also New Japan-sanctioned titles. Keep an eye on next issue's "Roll Call" for the results of a recent tournament to determine several new champions. □

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NAMES MAKI



REGAL VS. HALL

The controversial title reign of AWA World tag team champions **Jim Garvin** and **Steve Regal** didn't last too long. **Scott Hall** and **Curt Hennig** defeated the champions in a 58-minute war held in Albuquerque, New Mexico (which has just begun hosting AWA cards) on January 18. The end came with all four men in the ring, after Garvin leaped into the air to avoid an accidental collision with his partner. An alert Hennig managed to slip a rolling cradle on the confused Regal for the pinfall. AWA fans knew that it would only be a matter of time before the 6'8", 290-pound Hall wore a championship belt of one sort, and the combination of Hall's strength and power with Hennig's classical scientific background make them a team that could hold on to the belts for a long time to come. As an interesting side-light, history will note that six days prior to this match, Hall pinned Garvin at the 37-second mark in a singles match in St. Paul, Minnesota!

All of wrestling is saddened by the unscrupulous deal struck between

Ivan and **Nikita Koloff** and **Baron Von Raschke**. Von Raschke was despised for years as a sadistic Nazi, but changed his ways long ago and had been one of the most beloved figures in the AWA up until now. The Russians' usual partner in propaganda, **Krusher Khrushchev**, is disabled because of a severe leg injury inflicted upon him by their hated enemies **The Road Warriors**. Is the Baron really a communist sympathizer—a turncoat working for East Germany? Does the Baron merely harbor a grudge against the Warriors, the team that beat him



BARON VON RASCHKE

and **Crusher** for the AWA tag team belts in 1984? Or, as some insiders maintain, did Ivan Koloff really hire the experienced Von Raschke not to wrestle so much as to help train Nikita in the Russians' quest to destroy **Ric Flair**?

The feud between long-time partners **Chris Adams** and **Gino Hernandez** took a tragic turn when Hernandez squirted some sort of liquid, perhaps acid, into Adams' eyes during a match. At press time, Adams is completely

blind, and his career may be over . . . **The Fabulous Freebirds** have been raising their Dixie-fried brand of hell in the World Class region again. Texas fans are mortified to witness the second coming of their horrible feud with the **Von Erichs**. So far, the only title any of the hated Confederates have won has been the World Class TV belt, which Freebird **Buddy Roberts** snagged from **Mark Youngblood**.



BUDDY ROBERTS

The popular **Lady Maxine** lent a hand in **Norvell Austin's** victory over **Exotic Adrian Street** for the Southeast title. She kept Street's valet **Miss Linda** in check at ringside, making sure there wouldn't be any interference . . . AWA fans who were wondering whether **Tom Zenk** ever recovered from the double piledriver **Larry Zbyszko** and **Ray Stevens** hospitalized him with last year can rest easy. The handsome young prospect is fully recovered and wrestling to cheers in the Pacific Northwest, where he recently pinned **Bobby Jagers** for the PNW title . . . Southern champion **Lex Luger** may be hearing a lot of boos in

N' NEWS

Bill Apter
reporting...

Florida, but the brawny rookie is also earning a lot of respect. Some fans and insiders think he looks like a rule-breaking version of **Billy Jack Haynes**, in terms of strength and potential.

WWF mammoth **King Kong Bundy** has challenged the Chicago Bears' equally porky star lineman **William "The Refrigerator" Perry** to a charity contest in any sport, be it wrestling or, to cite other Bundy suggestions, the 40-yard dash or ping pong... Speaking of hype, the WWF is already advertising this spring's **WrestleMania II** on its television programs. However, no matches have been announced as of press time. Stay tuned, and let's hope the celebrities are kept at a minimum this year.

Enraged by the loss of **Baby Doll's** affections to **Dusty Rhodes** and by the failure of his efforts at regaining the U.S. title from **Magnum T.A.**, **Tully Blanchard** has taken his frustrations out on an innocent fan favorite. Blanchard sent **Jimmy Valiant** to the hospital with a piledriver on the



JIMMY VALIANT

concrete floor, and the Boogie Woogie Man's fans are furious at Tully for this act of treachery... **The Midnight Express** has been engaging **The Rock 'n' Roll Express** in a number of memorable battles for the R 'n' R's NWA World tag team title.

The valet controversy in wrestling has reached crisis proportions. "Mr. Unpredictable," North American champion **Dick Slater**, has been all too predictable in relying upon valet **Dark Journey** to interfere in matches for him, and Mid-South fans are ready to petition the NWA Board of Governors to put a stop to their shenanigans... **Sgt. Slaughter**, who'd be sorely tempted to eat the Stars and Stripes if that would bring him the world title he



SGT. SLAUGHTER

wants so badly, is getting his shots at AWA World champ **Stan Hansen**. His dream may come true this time, if the first few Hansen-Slaughter matches are any indication; Hansen has been very fortunate to walk away with the belt... Veteran **Bulldog Bob Brown** has been terrorizing the likes of **Marty Jannetty** and the **Batten Brothers**

in the Central States area with a "style" that consists almost entirely of rulebreaking... **Lars Anderson** claims to have an iron lock on the Pacific Polynesian title, but he's constantly looking over his shoulder at a dangerous number one contender: **Jimmy "Superfly" Snuka**. Snuka's name, incidentally, was chanted by



AFI VS. SHAW

Madison Square Garden fans during **Superfly Afi's** New York debut against **Ron Shaw**.

Finally, I have a story to report about a wrestling hero. This story didn't take place inside a squared circle, though, and it didn't even involve a wrestler. Long-time Houston promoter **Paul Boesch**, one of the most respected men in the business, recently underwent triple-bypass heart surgery. His recuperative powers are such that he was back on his feet a day and a half after the grueling operation! I'm always moved by courage in the ring, but you can't get much more inspirational than that.

That's all for now, fans. See you at the matches! □

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March 1980/Stories include: Flair, Rich, Funk, Duncum.

April 1980/Stories include: Hogan, Rich, Backlund, Mascaras.

May 1980/Stories include: Sammartino, Murdoch, Mulligan, Bockwinkel.

June 1980/Stories include: Putski, Andre, Hernandez, Keim.

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November 1980/Stories include: Rhodes, Putski, Bockwinkel, Koloff.

January 1981/Stories include: Race, Snuka, Morales, Slater.

February 1981/Stories include: Backlund, DiBiase, Bravo, Anderson.

April 1981/Stories include: Albano, Sammartino Jr., Race, McGraw.

May 1981/Stories include: Iron Sheik, Von Erich, Backlund, Santana.

June 1981/Stories include: Rhodes, Hansen, Piper, Gagne.

September 1981/Stories include: Patera, Koloff, Khan, Junkyard Dog.

January 1982/Stories include: Flair, Hogan, Race, Humperdink.

February 1982/Stories include: Valentine, Flair, Steamboat, Rhodes.

March 1982/Stories include: Rich, Backlund, Idol, Spoiler.

April 1982/Stories include: Rhodes, Andre, Von Erich, Piper.

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September 1982/Stories include: Atlas, Piper, Lawler, Brody.

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November 1982/Stories include: Flair, Snuka, Von Erich, Slaughter.

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February 1983/Stories include: Rhodes, Hogan, DiBiase, Race.

March 1983/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Graham, Johnson, Funk.

April 1983/Stories include: Snuka, Patera, Kabuki, Rich.

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September 1983/Stories include: Zbyszko, Piper, Andre, Hayes.

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November 1983/Stories include: Hogan, Reed, Von Erich, Dillon.

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January 1984/Stories include: Von Erich, Rich, Superstar, Piper.

February 1984/Stories include: Abdullah, Sawyers, Valiant, Von Erich.

March 1984/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Rich, Rhodes, Garvin.

April 1984/Stories include: Flair, Steamboat, Superstar, Windham.

May 1984/Stories include: Iron Sheik, Steamboat, Rotundo, Von Erich.

June 1984/Stories include: Flair, Slaughter, Cornette, DiBiase.

July 1984/Stories include: Valiant, Flair, Martel, Wrestling II.

August 1984/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Magnum T.A., Idol, Spoiler.

September 1984/Stories include: Martel, Brody, Von Erich, Iron Sheik.

October 1984/Stories include: Billy Jack, Road Warriors, Steamboat, Piper.

November 1984/Stories include: Rhodes, Rich, Hernandez, Warriors.

December 1984/Stories include: Hogan, Warriors, Sullivan, Magnum T.A.

January 1985/Stories include: Magnum T.A., Rhodes, Atlas, Von Erich.

February 1985/Stories include: Rich, Adams, Valiant, Flair.

March 1985/Stories include: Backlund, Billy Jack, Koloffs, Von Erichs.

April 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Albano & Hogan, Steamboat, Gordy.

May 1985/Stories include: Slaughter, Garvin, Albano, Koloffs.

June 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Slaughter, Von Erichs, Studd & Patera.

July 1985/Stories include: Hogan, Von Erich, Nikita, Warriors.

August 1985/Stories include: Wrestlemania, Zbyszko vs. The Tonga Kid.

September 1985/Stories include: Piper, Flair, Fantastics, Magnum T.A.

October 1985/Stories include: Russian menace, Von Erichs, Rude & Barr.

November 1985/Stories include: Steamboat, Adams, Freebirds, Cornette.

December 1985/Stories include: Santana, Brody, Andersons, Murdoch.

January 1986/Stories include: Steamboat, Mike Von Erich, The Road Warriors.

February 1986/Stories include: Rock 'n' Roll Express, The Road Warriors, Mulligan & Windham.

March 1986/Stories include: Windham & Rotundo, Road Warriors vs. The Russians, Hillbilly Jim, Rude, Lawler.

April 1986/Stories include: Scott Hall, Rhodes, Flair, Andre, Bill Watts.

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THE INSIDER

By Eddie Ellner

[The opinions expressed in "The Insider" are those of Eddie Ellner alone, and do not necessarily represent the opinions of anyone else on this magazine.]

IT COMES MONTHLY, and this month's painful reminders kept reappearing on my desk. Two ringside tickets to the WWF's monthly menagerie at Madison Square Garden with the words **ASSIGNED** slashed across their top. With the addition of Jim Schuermann to our staff, I thought I would never have to sit through another Garden funeral, considering the last time I went I left early in disgust and was chewed out something awful by my fellow editors.

"We want a second opinion. Yours," I was told. "Now, go." Stu Saks played the good detective when he took me aside, slapped me affectionately on the back, and said to me in tones dripped in conciliation, "We know you can do it."

He was right. The first thing I did was unload my fourth row ducats on some spoiled suburbanite suckers, already loaded down with \$100 worth of souvenirs, for \$50 a piece. Didn't the kids ever hear of Ethiopia?

After a tasty repast at Charlie O's (which I didn't enjoy as much as I should have because I started thinking about Ethiopia), I scrounged a blue seat up in Garden heaven for six bucks, and began my ascent. Incidentally, bootleg Hulk Hogan T-shirts, peddled



The beginning of Hulk Hogan's Madison Square Garden nightmare began with a prematch assault by his challenger, Randy Savage. At the end of the match, as Eddie Ellner observed, Hogan experienced the hollow feeling of desertion by his once-loyal supporters.

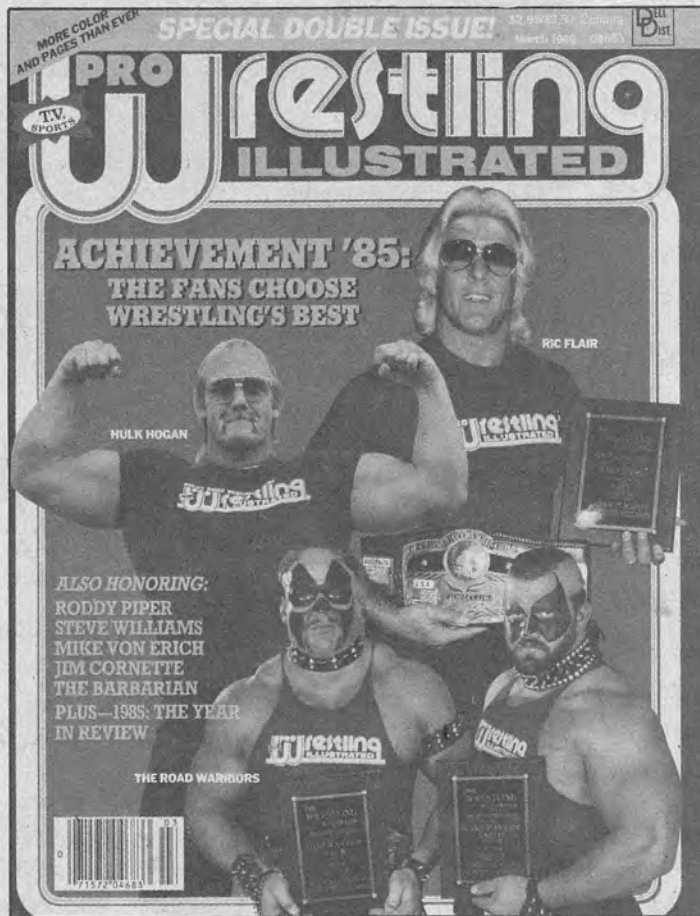
outside in the frigid snow for a bargain basement \$4, were selling like, well, like T-shirts in an icestorm. It was a curious foreshadowing of things to come.

As I got to my seat, Mike Sharpe and George Wells were exchanging Sominexing suplexes. At one point Sharpe left the ring, to the delight of every anxious fan

there—anxious because 22,000 of them, and another 3,500 in the adjoining Felt Forum, had braved the night's threatening forecast to see but one thing, that thing being Hulkamania drop his barometer on Randy Savage's head. Iron Mike Sharpe's departure, and unfortunate return, was noticeable

(Continued on page 20)

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THE INSIDER

(Continued from page 18)

only in its irrelevancy.

The blue seats in Madison Square Garden are detached from its other colored colleagues by a slight overhang. They dangle hundreds of feet off the ground, allowing the residents up there an Empire State Building's-eye view of the action down below. When Hulk Hogan—clad in milk and lemon to offset the sickly bronze hues of his sun-lamped skin—collided with Savage, sublime, imposing, brilliant in a full-length sapphire-black Betsy Johnson robe, the panoramic from up top was like that of a huge, monstrous flower unfolding.

After Hogan split Savage's forehead open like a lichee nut, his blood mingled with the whole-wheat softness of Miss Elizabeth's skin, the crimson flow destroying her \$5,000 Oscar de la Renta black cashmere gown.

I recall the colors better than the match itself. Far more noteworthy is what happened after Hulk Hogan beat Randy Savage blood silly, after Hogan was counted out of the ring, and the victory, for the second consecutive month, was awarded to Randy Savage.

Following Savage and Elizabeth's abrupt exit, Hogan pranced about the ring like a camel on speed, appealing to the crowd the unfairness of the referee's decision. Apparently, and to his credit, Hogan was not satisfied that he retained his WWF belt, nor was he consoled by the roadmap he had carved out of Randy Savage's face. But what it was that he wanted was not easily ascertained by the capacity crowd. He rallied them to cheer, as is his ingracious wont, by cupping hand monkey-like to ear, and cocking his head in moronic askance.

They cheered. This, after all, was not the Harvard class reunion



of 1936. But plain cheers would not satisfy Hogan on this night. The champ, faced as he was with the blurring fact of two consecutive defeats to the same man, seemed particularly insecure. Tonight he would settle for nothing less than the fans' worshipping genuflections.

He remained in the ring for four, five, and six minutes after his match had ended, bleeding the crowd's enthusiasm like a voracious, insatiable, pandering vampire. The crowd, grown up as it has on 30-second commercials and two-minute news updates, wearied. They grew restless, Hogan or no Hogan. They went to the bathroom and off to the concession stands. Two fans by me sang Rastafarian love songs, while a third accompanied them on the cowbell.

Hulk-a-Mania, or what remained of that odd genus, died indifferently. Several more moments passed before Hogan slipped, practically unnoticed, through the ropes and back to the dressing room. An ignoble exit for the most popular wrestler in the world. For the first time in months, I'm *very anxious*

Superfly Afi's presence, as a replacement for the irreplaceable Superfly Snuka, burned up a lot of fans.

to gauge the reaction Hogan receives at next month's Garden card, a lumberjack rematch with Randy Savage.

It was a Garden party for Superfly Afi, who riveted the fans' attention by storming out to the throbbing beat of "Shaft," then twirling his fiery baton with the grace of a USC song girl. His opponent, Ron Shaw, looked on perplexed, as if to say to himself, "I should have ordered a *Bud Light*." When the lights went on, however, and the 22,000-plus discovered that Superfly Afi was *not* Superfly Jimmy Snuka, the crowd booed and howled its disappointment. Several chants of "Snu-ka, Snu-ka" gained momentum throughout the match, despite a credible performance by the veteran Polynesian. When will the WWF learn that its attempts to replace men who are irreplaceable are viewed with contempt and disdain by the fans?

This Bud's for you, Cpl. Kirschner. □

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ATLANTA, GA

By Steve Hendrix



RIC FLAIR
vs.
DUSTY RHODES



The dust cleared on another chapter of this intense NWA feud. Flair hadn't a chance this night and was fortunate to retain his crown. As Dusty swept the ring with the champ, Ole and Arn Anderson stormed out of the dressing room. They were stopped by the outside referee, while Flair and Dusty continued battling and collided with the official inside the ring. Magnum T.A. joined the melee in which both referees were knocked out. One recovered to count Dusty out while the Andersons covertly held his legs.

OTHER BOUTS: Magnum T.A. defeated Tully Blanchard ... The Rock 'n' Roll Express defeated the Andersons ... Ronnie Garvin defeated J.J. Dillon ... Krusher Khrushchev drew with Sam Houston ... Nikita Koloff beat The Italian Stallion.

NORWALK, CT

By Matt Saksa



HILLBILLY JIM
vs.
BRUTUS BEEFCAKE



Jim hadn't forgotten the leg Beefcake and his manager, Johnny Valiant, broke last year and came to the ring without his usual down-home affability. All business, the Hillbilly attacked Beefcake with all his weapons. Most of the match occurred outside the ring as Beefcake's head and the steel ringpost became very good friends. Jim pinned the tag team champion with little difficulty.

OTHER BOUTS: Dan Spivey defeated Greg Valentine ... Cousin Junior defeated Mr. X ... Mike Rotundo beat Barry O ... Tony Atlas defeated Moon-dog Spot ... Tony Garea defeated Rene Goulet.

CHICAGO, IL

By Mark Gallo



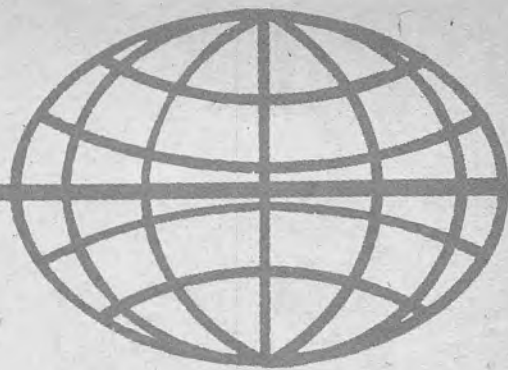
STAN HANSEN
vs.
SGT. SLAUGHTER



Stan Hansen showed he had no intention of relinquishing his AWA crown, as he battered Sgt. Slaughter from post to post. Hansen began before the bell sounded, attacking Slaughter with chairs and his bullhorn. Slaughter managed to rally, but was unable to keep the battle inside the ring. Hansen eventually slugged the referee and was disqualified.

OTHER BOUTS: The Road Warriors & Jerry Blackwell defeated The Fabulous Freebirds in a cage match ... Jimmy Garvin & Steve Regal beat Scott Hall & Curt Hennig ... Nick Bockwinkel defeated Larry Zbyszko by disqualification.

WRESTLING CAPITALS



SAN JUAN, PR

By Jose Fonseca Molina



CARLOS COLON
vs.
KAMALA



As the bell sounded, Colon hammered Kamala's head with his heavy fists, sending the Ugandan warrior slithering to the mat, whereupon Colon attempted to apply his trademark figure-four. Skandor Akbar interfered on behalf of Kamala and got his man disqualified. Kamala snapped, and, in a berserk frenzy, beat unconscious both Colon and the referee.

OTHER BOUTS: Eric Embry defeated Invader III ... Jos LeDuc beat Hercules Ayala ... Medic I defeated The Viking ... The Rock 'n' Roll RPMs drew with Luke Williams & Butch Miller ... Cowboy Lane beat Kid Chocolate.

KORIYAMA, JAPAN

By Hiro Akai



DICK MURDOCH
vs.
BRUISER BRODY

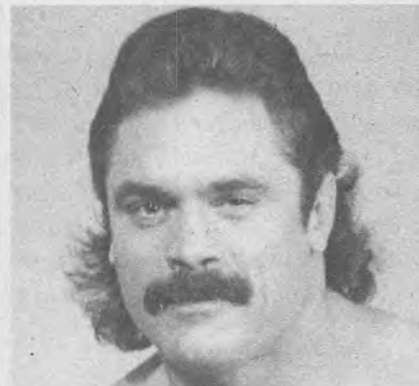


The two wildmen provoked the crowd through their heated mat action into almost riotous histrionics. Brody controlled the tempo, maintaining a pace better suited for a punk rock concert. He and Murdoch traded assorted agonies and spilled from the ring. Police cordoned off their area and the fight ended up in the dressing room. As anticipated, the match ended up being ruled a no-contest.

OTHER BOUTS: Shiro Koshinaka defeated Gotoh ... Kengo Kimura & Tatsumi Fujinami defeated Dos Caras & Makoto Arakawa.

SAN ANTONIO, TX

By Hazel Krater



RICK RUDE
vs.
ICEMAN PARSONS



Rude and Percy Pringle accosted Parsons outside the ring and unbraided several of his dangling dreadlocks. This infuriated Iceman and his anger enabled him to steal Pringle's cane and smash it over Rude's head. Rude regained control and smacked Parsons silly with his manager's pole. The referee disqualified Rude, although Parsons seemed unhappy with the result.

OTHER BOUTS: Lance Von Erich defeated One Man Gang by disqualification ... The Grappler defeated Mark Youngblood ... Scott Casey & Sunshine defeated Johnny Tatum & Missy Hyatt ... Kevin & Kerry Von Erich beat The Freebirds.



Matt Brock's PLAIN SPEAKING

I'D LIKE TO preface this column by responding to ugly rumors that I am suffering from grave illness and/or the decrepitudes of old age and a hard life. I am a professional journalist, and I take special care in making my prose brief, concise, and to the ever-lovin' point. So, I hereby crib a leaf from Gen. MacArthur's rebuff to the Japanese when they sent him the papers for unconditional surrender in World War II:

"NUTS!"

Matt Brock is here to stay. And I won't retire until I find myself in a morgue fridge. In fact, I have this month initiated a major pan-American fact-finding tour of the wrestling capitals. Believe me, three hours shut-eye a night in transit between capitals extends a man's capacities for survival and sharpens his desire to uncover the essence of the squared circle. A working journalist has better things to do than hang around the office, anyway. I maintain a pace the kids around here can't handle, and they'll admit it. And I plan to log more air traffic miles than any reporter in sports.

MINNEAPOLIS, MN: Stan Hansen is too good for the gutter of any well-irrigated city. I can hardly believe he's champion.

Stan Hansen, AWA champion. *Phooey*. The guy's a child who should be kept away from playing with matches. You hear a lot of noise in the brat pack—I'm talking here about wrestling's "New Journalists" who gloss over rulebreakers because they're "tough"—about how Hansen beat Martel "scientifically" for the title. I was there, and you'd better believe the fat slob broke the rules. When he had Ricky in the Boston Crab—er, the "Brazos Valley Backbreaker," as he arbitrarily calls it, Hansen illegally pressed his head against the turnbuckle for added leverage in order to push an escaping Martel back down on the mat. Hansen could never win any title without at least a subtle hint of rule-breaking, and he was so slick about it this time that



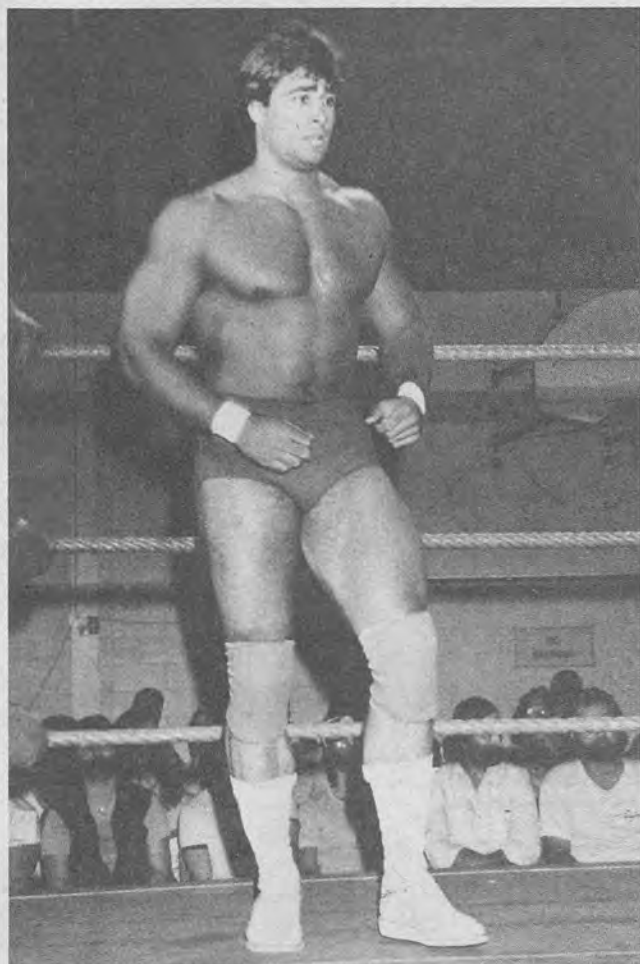
STAN HANSEN

even the experts at ringside didn't notice. I haven't been to the eye quacks since I had a minor cataract sliced out 23 years ago, and I spot the details. I noticed.

The AWA will undergo a medieval period of cruelty as long as a psychopath like Hansen holds the belt. God bless the gladiator who ultimately terminates his reign of terror.

PORTLAND, OR: From the sad to the sublime. I rejoiced in watching Tom Zenk win his first major title since he sustained a major neck injury in the AWA. I predicted superstardom for the lad months after he first entered the ring, and I'm still convinced of his unlimited potential. He made the right deci-

Harder than nails, veteran wrestling reporter Matt Brock has logged more miles covering wrestling than any other journalist. Every month Matt will travel to the sport's hotbeds, reporting everything he sees without fear or favor



TOM ZENK

sion in moving back to the Pacific Northwest at the outset of his comeback; can you imagine a tender-necked Zenk returning to the AWA to battle Hansen and his crippling lariat? Zenk found just the right level of competition for a comebacking athlete here, and he's better than ever.

What next for the kid? I would suggest staying away from his old enemies and invading an unfamiliar territory—say, the Mid-South or World Championship areas. If he plays his unmarked cards right, Tom Zenk will be an early candidate for “Most Improved Wrestler” kudos this year.

GLASTONBURY, CT: One of my closest friends in wrestling has embarked upon a moral quest unheard of in the history of the sport. Bob Backlund held the

WWF World championship for nearly six years, and he couldn't get a rematch after he lost the title. Most wrestlers—hell, I feel safe in saying *every* wrestler—would have moved on with their lives and careers and swallowed the injustice hook, line, and sinker. Not Bob Backlund. In a apathetic age, he cares. He will not allow himself to be treated abominably by the sport he gave so much to as champion. As a matter of conscience, he has retired indefinitely until he can sign a contract to wrestle Hulk Hogan for the title he still feels belongs to him.



BOB BACKLUND

The smart money says that Backlund is making this ultimatum to rationalize his reluctance to make a comeback—that he really doesn't want to wrestle, and he's coming up with lofty excuses. The smart money, as usual, is senseless. No man on earth loves wrestling more than Bob Backlund. It kills him not to be involved in active competition. But Backlund is courageous enough to fight for his principles. He'll wrestle on his own terms, thank you, and if those aren't suitable, he'll find another line of work. He isn't happy in retirement, and he won't make a miniscule fraction of the dough he earned as a champion in any other field, especially coaching. But nothing in Bob Backlund's life takes a back seat to his conscience.

Nobody in wrestling has ever cared more about *you*, the fans, than Bob Backlund. Now he needs your support. □

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Do you have a favorite wrestler who has left your area? Are you wondering where he is today? Then this special column is just for you. Each month we will update the whereabouts of four current or former wrestlers



BRETT SAWYER

Brett Sawyer has spent the last year traveling throughout the wrestling world, seldom staying in one area for more than a few months. His travels have taken him to the Central States (where he was Central

States champion) and Pacific Northwest areas, and now the Mid-South. Brett says he has no plans to leave the Mid-South. Ironically, Brett is a fan favorite there, while his brother Buzz is a top Mid-South rulebreaker.



KILLER KHAN

The Mongolian nightmare has earned a frighteningly notorious reputation over his long career. He is remembered as the man who broke Andre the Giant's leg in 1981, sending the Eighth Wonder of the

World into the hospital and keeping him out of action for months. Khan has also been instrumental in teaching The Fabulous Freebirds various Oriental rulebreaking techniques. This giant is currently terrorizing Australian wrestling rings.



TERRY GARVIN

This wrestler, the eldest of the three famed Garvin brothers, gained notoriety in the '60s and '70s through his solo career and in tag team competition with his two younger brothers, Jim and Ronnie. Jim man-

aged the team of Terry and Ronnie to great success in the Georgia area in the early '70s. No longer wrestling actively, Terry recently finished a tenure in the Kansas City offices of the NWA, and is now an assistant booker for the World Wrestling Federation.



HUMONGOUS

Perhaps it is because certain reporters were on the verge of revealing his true identity. Perhaps it is because his manager, Sir Oliver Humperdink, has decided to send him into exile to learn new punishing moves. Perhaps Hump-

erdink knows nothing of his whereabouts, and he has disappeared on his own. Rumors are flying every which way in the wrestling world, and the only thing that's known for sure is that Humongous has completely dropped out of sight and is nowhere to be found.

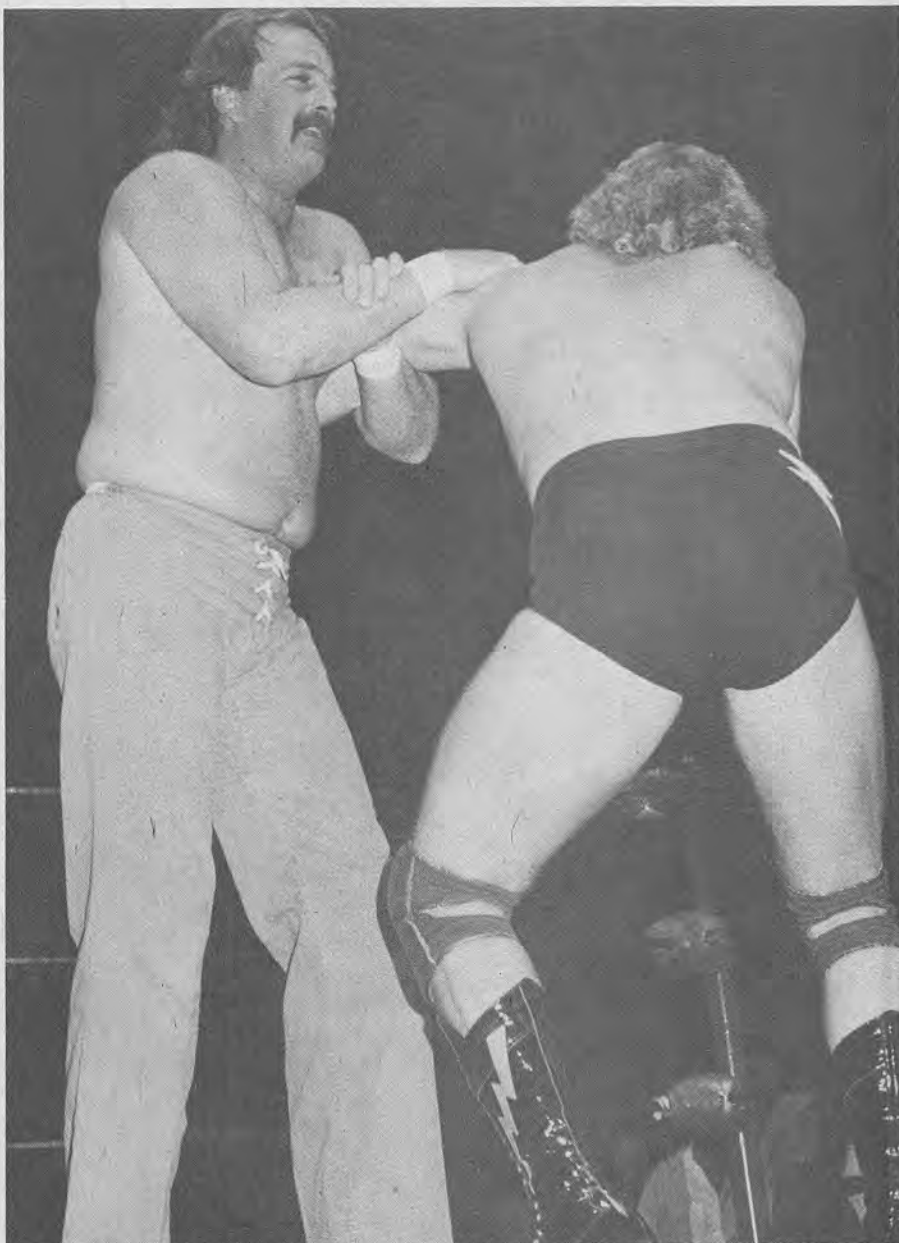
INSIDE WRESTLING

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capsule profile

JAKE ROBERTS

KNOWN THROUGHOUT THE wrestling world as "The Snake," Jake Roberts has truly earned his nickname during his 10-year career ("I'm called 'Snake' because I'll strike faster than a cobra and, yes, I'm, just a little bit slimy!") ... Stands 6'5" and weighs 243 pounds ... Known for his fast hands, devastating kneelifts, and signature move: the DDT ("I can stun a man senseless or crack his skull, depending on what kind of little twist I want to put on the DDT") ... In late 1979 and early 1980, suffered two broken arms, but struggled back from those injuries to win the Louisiana State title ... Wrestled throughout the United States, Canada, and Japan ... In 1982, traveled to Florida and became a member of Kevin Sullivan's demonic cult ("Kevin is a man who does things just a bit differently, and there's a lot about his personal style that I admire") ... Despite being one of the most hated men in the sport while in Florida, Roberts secured several title matches with NWA World champion Ric Flair ("The man's not as tough as his reputation; I'd like a good chance to wrestle him again") ... After wrestling in Florida, moved to the Georgia area in late 1983 where he was managed by Precious Paul Ellering ("It was an honor and a privilege to be a member of The Legion of Doom")

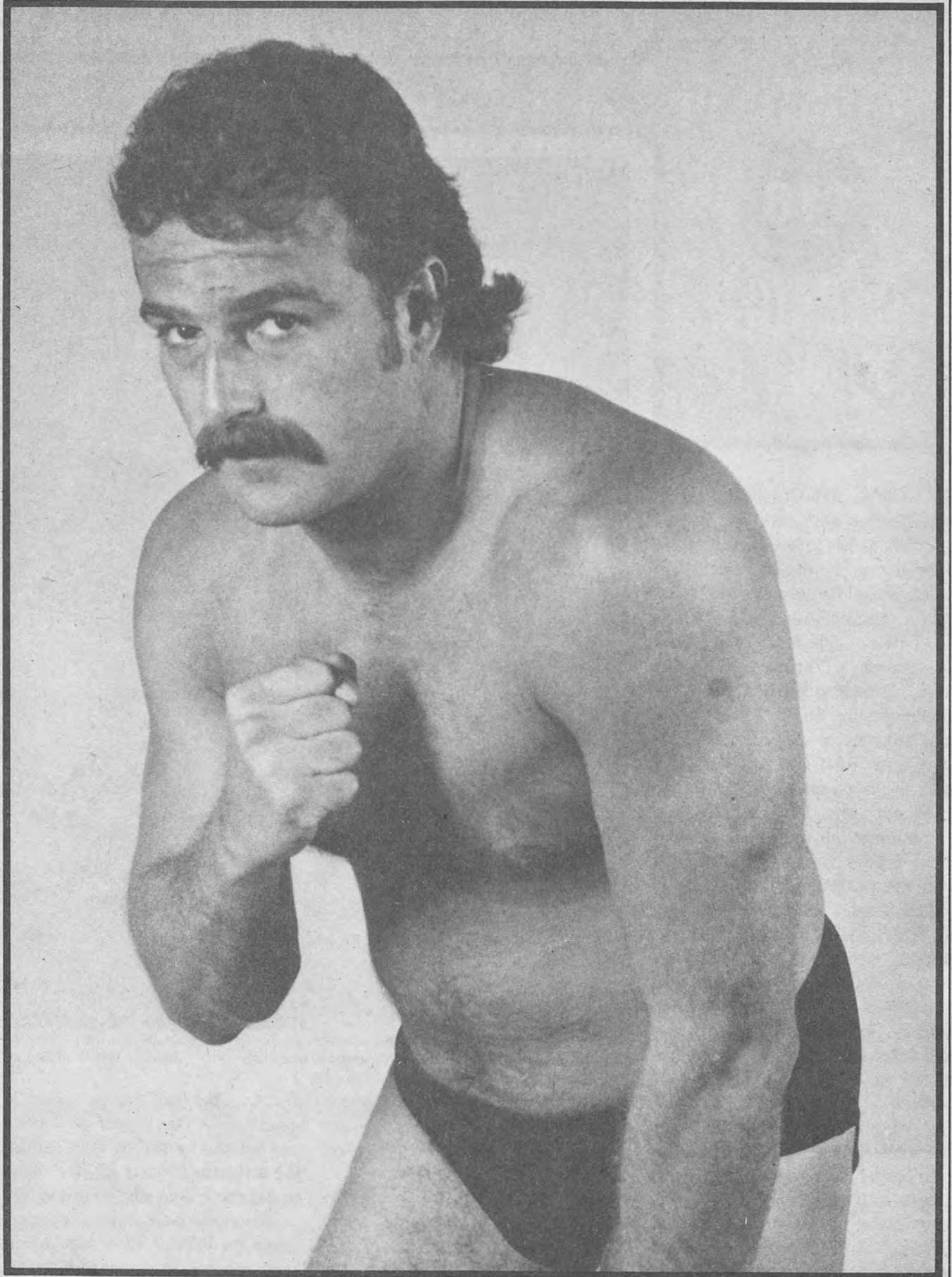


Though Jake Roberts has been the recipient of the fans' cheers of late, he claims the positive feedback means little to his performance in the ring. "Hated, loved, it makes no difference; I do what I have to do," he says.

... Feuded with such men as Tommy Rich and Ronnie Garvin ("Tommy Rich had to be one of the most overrated idiots in the sport's history") ... Moved to the World Class area in late '84 ("Speaking of overrated, how about them Von Erichs, huh?") ... 1985 saw Roberts enter the Mid-South area, where he continued to remain one of the most hated men in the

sport ... The fans' hatred turned to admiration as the result of Roberts' feud with his former tag team partner, The Barbarian ("Hated, loved, it makes no difference; I do what I have to do") ... Reportedly plans to begin competition in the WWF ("There was nothing more for me to accomplish in the Mid-South, especially after running The Barbarian out to the AWA"). □

CAPSULE PROFILE PINUP

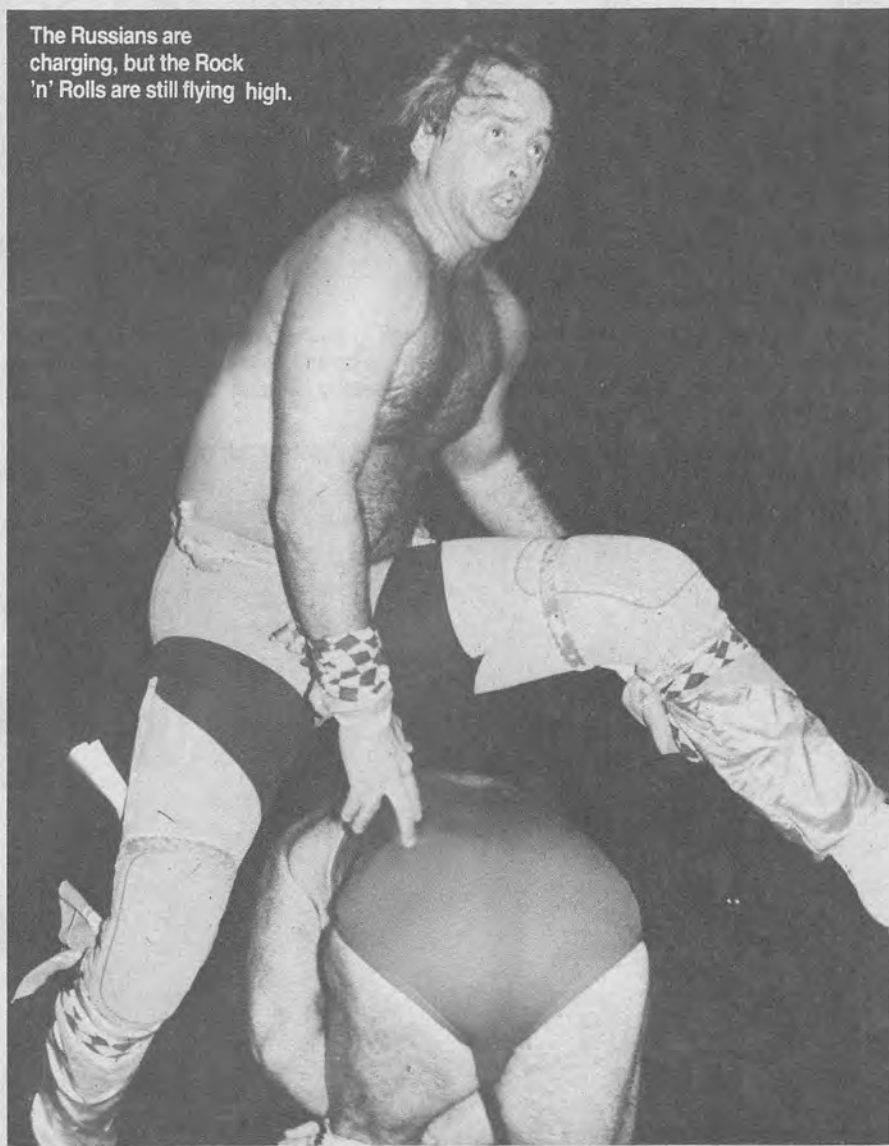


JAKE ROBERTS

Playing Russian Roulette—And Winning!

THE ROCK 'N' ROLLS ARE HERE TO STAY!

The Russians are charging, but the Rock 'n' Rolls are still flying high.



The Rock 'n' Roll Express have what the Koloffs and Khrushchev want: the NWA World tag team belts. Rick Morton and Robert Gibson are on the short end of a three-on-two campaign . . . and they're frustrating the Russians at every turn!

RICK MORTON AND Robert Gibson were engaged in a very special form of training drill designed to sharpen their reflexes and shorten their reaction time in tag team matches.

The two men were in a sparring ring, bounding off the ropes in criss-cross fashion. At random times, subject to the whims of either man, one of them would drop to the mat in a face-down posi-

tion. That would be the signal for the other to break his momentum and execute a somersault over his partner, move into the ropes, and to rebound and continue the criss-crossing. By the time the



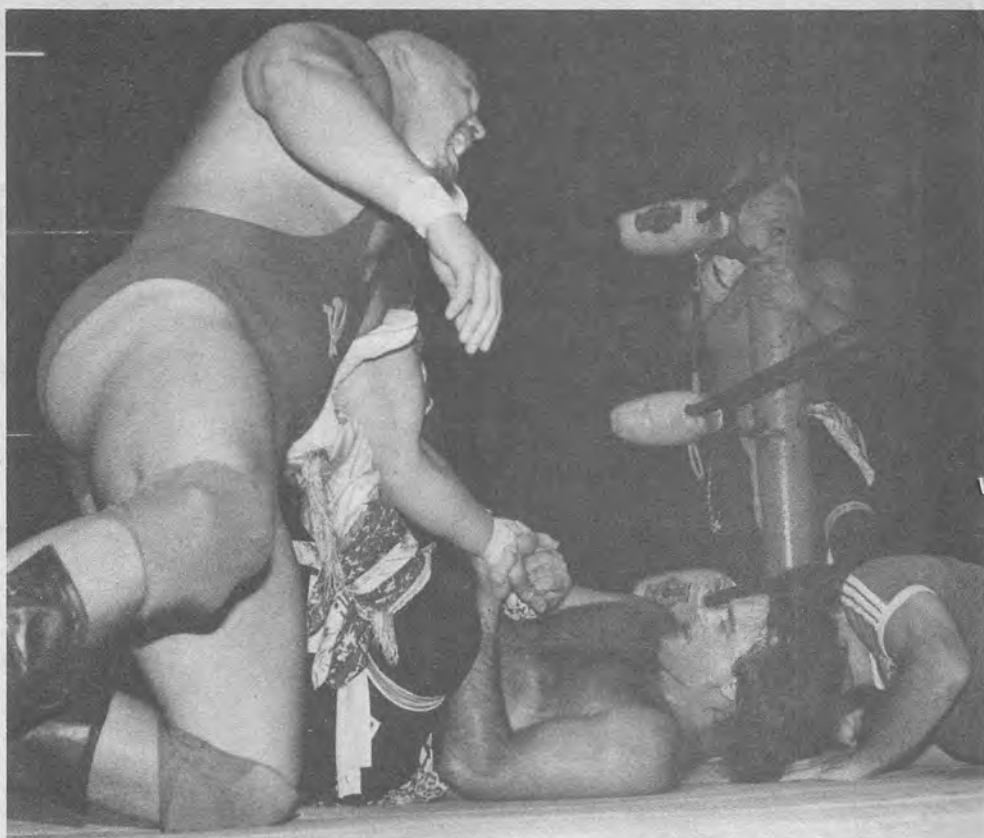
tumbler returned to mid-ring, the man on the mat would be back on his feet continuing *his* criss-crossing from ropes to ropes.

The drill was being performed in five-minute sprints, with an average of eight drop-and-somersault maneuvers per minute. Morton and Gibson were taking five-minute breaks between drills. At the end of their fourth drill, they were exhausted but willing to talk.

"This is a great exercise," Rick Morton said between gulps of breath. Both men were breathing heavily, but their eyes were bright and they were clearly invigorated by the intensity of the workout. "The running builds up our stamina, the tumbling helps keep our gymnastic abilities sharp, and the fact that we signal each other randomly for a tumble is great for our reflexes."

Robert Gibson smiled and nodded his head in agreement; large beads of perspiration flew through the air.

"Besides," Morton added, "we've got the Russians breathing down our necks. We can't afford to let up now for a minute."



Morton hopes he can hold Nikita Koloff long enough to be able to tag off to Gibson (above left). Gibson, stretching Krusher Khrushchev's arm, is careful to keep one shoulder off the mat and avoid accidentally being pinned (above). Keeping Nikita in the center of the ring, Gibson twists the Russian's ankle (below).



They're strong, they're determined; and they're battling us three-on-two. We can't afford to make *any* mistakes."

At the phrase "three-on-two," Gibson's smile deteriorated into anger. The lopsidedness of their

war with the Russians is clearly a sore point with him.

"Look, when Ricky says it's three-on-two," Gibson said, "he means more than three men against two men, he also means it's three *teams* against the two of

us. Team one: Ivan and Nikita Koloff. Team two: Ivan Koloff and Krusher Khrushchev. Team three: Nikita and Khrushchev. It's like a game of Russian roulette. You never know which chamber the bullet is gonna be in, and we never know which team of Russians is going to be facing us in the ring. In effect, we have to be training to face three teams every time we know we're going to be defending our belts against the Russians."

"The worst of it is that the Russians don't have to submit the combination they intend to use to the NWA before each match," Morton explained peckishly. "All they do when they sign a contract is guarantee that two of the three of them will be there—they never have to say *which* two, though. And sometimes it's all three of them, with the third standing at ringside either interfering or threatening to interfere, which can be dangerously distracting."

Morton and Gibson noted that they've repeatedly complained to the NWA about the situation, arguing that they wouldn't be entitled to substitute a third member on a whim in official title de-

fenses. NWA President Bob Geigel, however, continues to deny the protest. So, as Morton said, they can't afford to make any mistakes.

"Each pair of Russians has its own chemistry and its own peculiarities," Gibson observed. "First



Realizing that they are physically overmatched against the Russians, the Rock 'n' Rolls try to play to their own strengths rather than be drawn into a brawl. Morton takes Ivan Koloff down with a flying headscissors (above). No angels themselves, Gibson and Morton will often try to get away with as much double-teaming as they can (below).



off, you have Ivan and Khrushchev. That combination is more tactical than any of the others. Ivan is a great strategist, and you've got to guard against unexpected maneuvers and strategies. Khrushchev is a far better scientific wrestler than he's given credit for."

"Then you've got Ivan and Nikita," Morton said. "This team is tactical, too, but there's the added dangers of Nikita's raw power and the singlemindedness that comes from the fact that it's uncle and nephew in there together."

"Nikita and Khrushchev is the most uncommon combination," Gibson said, "but it's also the most powerful. They've sprung that one on us when they've thought that they've weakened us a lot in a previous match, say a few days earlier."

"A pure power team," Morton said, "but they suffer from a lack of speed and tactical smoothness. They rely on power and strength. But they can pull some surprises out of their hats as well."

Morton and Gibson towed the sweat from their foreheads and climbed back into the sparring ring to continue their speed drills.

"So far, we've done all right where the Russians are concerned," Gibson said, "and we're gonna keep doing all right. This training here is going to help, and we're also working on some new finishing maneuvers that should be ready for actual match use in about a month. Don't worry 'bout us, those belts are here to stay!"

With that, Gibson yelled "Go!" and the Rock 'n' Rolls began their criss-crossing. Morton dropped to his stomach after three passes across the ring, Gibson deftly somersaulted over him, rebounded off the ropes, and the drill continued with a remarkably uncommon level of intensity and excellence.

Just like the Rock 'n' Rolls' NWA tag team title reign. ☐

INSIDE WRESTLING'S OFFICIAL RATINGS

TOP 15

- 1—**RIC FLAIR**
243, Minneapolis, MN
- 2—**HULK HOGAN**
305, Venice Beach, CA
- 3—**STAN HANSEN**
322, Borger, TX

- 4—**DUSTY RHODES**
302, Austin, TX
- 5—**MAGNUM T.A.**
245, Chesapeake, VA
- 6—**RANDY SAVAGE**
245, Sarasota, FL
- 7—**KERRY VON ERICH**
260, Denton, TX

- 8—**NIKITA KOLOFF**
275, Moscow, Russia
- 9—**SGT. SLAUGHTER**
310, Parris Island, SC
- 10—**RICK MARTEL**
236, Quebec City, Quebec
- 11—**RICK RUDE**
246, Robbinsdale, MN

- 12—**RICK STEAMBOAT**
238, Honolulu, HI
- 13—**TULLY BLANCHARD**
235, San Antonio, TX
- 14—**TED DIBIASE**
247, Omaha, NB
- 15—**LEX LUGAR**
280, Chicago, IL

NWA

- 1—**RIC FLAIR**
243, Minneapolis, MN
- 2—**MAGNUM T.A.**
245, Chesapeake, VA
- 3—**DUSTY RHODES**
302, Austin, TX

- 4—**RONNIE GARVIN**
231, Montreal, Quebec
- 5—**NIKITA KOLOFF**
276, Moscow, Russia
- 6—**WAHOO McDANIEL**
260, Midland, TX
- 7—**DICK SLATER**
235, Tampa, FL

- 8—**RICK RUDE**
246, Robbinsdale, MN
- 9—**BUTCH REED**
265, Kansas City, MO
- 10—**HARLEY RACE**
253, Kansas City, MO
- 11—**LEX LUGAR**
280, Chicago

- 12—**KERRY VON ERICH**
260, Denton, TX
- 13—**BRUISER BRODY**
284, Albuquerque, NM
- 14—**ROBERT FULLER**
238, Dyresburg, TN
- 15—**TOM ZENK**
237, Robbinsdale, MN

AWA

- 1—**STAN HANSEN**
322, Borger, TX
- 2—**SGT. SLAUGHTER**
310, Parris Island, SC
- 3—**RICK MARTEL**
236, Quebec City, Quebec

- 4—**LARRY ZBYSZKO**
248, Pittsburgh, PA
- 5—**NICK BOCKWINKEL**
245, Beverly Hills, CA
- 6—**SCOTT HALL**
290, Minneapolis, MN
- 7—**THE BARBARIAN**
316, parts unknown

- 8—**BORIS ZUKHOV**
254, Leningrad, Russia
- 9—**JERRY BLACKWELL**
474, Stone Mountain, GA
- 10—**CURT HENNIG**
235, Minneapolis, MN
- 11—**GREG GAGNE**
220, Robbinsdale, MN

- 12—**MARTY JANNETTY**
224, Columbus, GA
- 13—**SHAWN MICHAELS**
231, Ireland
- 14—**BUCK ZUMHOFF**
222, Hamburg, MN
- 15—**MONGOLIAN STOMPER**
259, Mongolia

WWF

- 1—**HULK HOGAN**
305, Venice Beach, CA
- 2—**TITO SANTANA**
245, Mission, TX
- 3—**RANDY SAVAGE**
245, Sarasota, FL

- 4—**RICK STEAMBOAT**
238, Honolulu, HI
- 5—**PAUL ORNDORFF**
253, Brandon, FL
- 6—**MAGNIFICENT MURACO**
274, Sunset Beach, HI
- 7—**TERRY FUNK**
247, Amarillo, TX

- 8—**HILLBILLY JIM**
282, Mud Lick, KY
- 9—**RODDY PIPER**
231, Scotland
- 10—**ANDRE THE GIANT**
505, Grenoble, France
- 11—**ADRIAN ADONIS**
303, New York, NY

- 12—**JOHN STUDD**
364, Washington, DC
- 13—**KING KONG BUNDY**
446, Atlantic City, NJ
- 14—**COWBOY BOB ORTON**
245, Kansas City, KS
- 15—**JESSE VENTURA**
270, Muscle Beach, CA

MOST POPULAR

- 1—**HULK HOGAN**
305, Venice Beach, CA
- 2—**DUSTY RHODES**
302, Austin, TX
- 3—**KERRY VON ERICH**
260, Denton, TX

- 4—**MAGNUM T.A.**
245, Chesapeake, VA
- 5—**RICK STEAMBOAT**
238, Honolulu, HI
- 6—**TITO SANTANA**
245, Mission, TX
- 7—**KEVIN VON ERICH**
239, Denton, TX

- 8—**HACKSAW DUGGAN**
280, New York, NY
- 9—**BARRY WINDHAM**
230, Sweetwater, TX
- 10—**HILLBILLY JIM**
282, Mud Lick, KY
- 11—**TED DIBIASE**
247, Omaha, NB

- 12—**PAUL ORNDORFF**
253, Brandon, FL
- 13—**TERRY TAYLOR**
225, Vero Beach, FL
- 14—**STEVE WILLIAMS**
265, Tulsa, OK
- 15—**JUNKYARD DOG**
260, New Orleans, LA

MOST HATED

- 1—**RIC FLAIR**
243, Minneapolis
- 2—**RANDY SAVAGE**
245, Sarasota, FL
- 3—**DICK MURDOCH**
270, Waxahachie, TX

- 4—**MAGNIFICENT MURACO**
274, Sunset Beach, HI
- 5—**NIKITA KOLOFF**
275, Moscow, Russia
- 6—**STAN HANSEN**
322, Borger, TX
- 7—**RODDY PIPER**
231, Glasgow, Scotland

- 8—**TULLY BLANCHARD**
235, San Antonio, TX
- 9—**DICK SLATER**
235, Tampa, FL
- 10—**TERRY FUNK**
247, Amarillo, TX
- 11—**RICK RUDE**
246, Robbinsdale, MN

- 12—**ADRIAN ADONIS**
303, New York, NY
- 13—**JIM GARVIN**
235, Tampa, FL
- 14—**KING KONG BUNDY**
446, Atlantic City, NJ
- 15—**KEVIN SULLIVAN**
239, Boston, MA

TAG TEAMS

- 1—**THE ROAD WARRIORS**
No. 1 contenders to AWA and NWA World tag titles
- 2—**RICK MORTON & ROBERT GIBSON**
NWA World tag team champions
- 3—**GREG VALENTINE & BRUTUS BEEFCAKE**
WWF World tag team champions
- 4—**IVAN & NIKITA KOLOFF**
No. 2 contenders to NWA tag team title
- 5—**DENNIS CONDREY & BOBBY EATON**
No. 1 contenders to NWA tag team title

- 6—**SCOTT HALL & CURT HENNIG**
AWA World tag team champions
- 7—**DYNAMITE KID & DAVEY BOY SMITH**
No. 1 contenders to WWF tag team title
- 8—**STEVE WILLIAMS & TED DIBIASE**
Mid-South tag team champions
- 9—**KERRY & KEVIN VON ERICH**
No. 1 contenders to World Class tag team title
- 10—**OLE & ARN ANDERSON**
National tag team champions

- 11—**TOMMY ROGERS & BOBBY FULTON**
Mid-Southern tag team champions
- 12—**JIM NEIDHARDT & BRETT HART**
No. 2 contenders to WWF tag team title
- 13—**STEVE KEIRN & STAN LANE**
No. 1 contenders to Mid-Southern tag team title
- 14—**TOM ZENK & SCOTT DORING**
Pacific Northwest tag team champions
- 15—**ROCKY & RICKY JOHNSON**
Polynesian Pacific tag team champions

These ratings are compiled by the editors with the assistance of promoters, wrestlers, and reporters around the country, and are based on won-lost records for the past month, quality of opposition, and the inherent skill of each wrestler . . . "Most Popular" and "Most Hated" ratings are based on nationwide surveys of wrestling fans and on mail that comes to our offices . . . Championships marked with asterisks on the "Roll Call of Champions" indicate title changes that have taken place since our previous issue . . . The information under the championship listing indicates the date that champion won the title, who the former champion was, and where the match took place . . . Though several Canadian and Japanese championships are listed in the "Roll Call," the ratings themselves reflect United States-based competition. For period ended January 29, 1986

ROLL CALL OF CHAMPIONS

- ALABAMA CHAMPION: ROBERTO SOTO**
(September 20, 1985; tournament final over The Flame; Mobile, AL)
- ALL-ASIA TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: TAKASHI ISHIKAWA & MIGHTY INOUE**
(October 31, 1985; from Isamu Teranishi & Animal Hamaguchi; Tokyo)
- AWA JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: BUCK ZUMHOFE**
(November 28, 1985; from Steve Regal; St. Paul, MN)
- AWA WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP: SHERRI MARTEL**
(September 28, 1985; Candi Divine; Chicago)
- AWA WORLD CHAMPION: STAN HANSEN**
(December 29, 1985; from Rick Martel; East Rutherford, NJ)
- * **AWA WORLD TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: SCOTT HALL & CURT HENNING**
(January 18, 1986; from Jim Garvin & Steve Regal; Albuquerque, NM)
- AMERICAS CHAMPION: SGT. SLAUGHTER**
(June 21, 1985; from Larry Zbyszko; Chicago)
- CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL CHAMPION: DINO BRAVO**
(May 28, 1985; defeated King Tonga to fill vacant title; Montreal)
- CANADIAN TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: JACQUES & RAYMOND ROUGEAU**
(June 12, 1985; defeated King Tonga & Dick Charland to fill vacant title; Quebec City)
- CENTRAL STATES CHAMPION: BOB BROWN**
(December 17, 1985; from Brett Sawyer; Ames, IA)
- CENTRAL STATES TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: BRAD & BART BATTEN**
(November 21, 1985; tournament final over The Midnight Express; Kansas City, MO)
- CENTRAL STATES TV CHAMPION: TITLE VACANT**
(most recently held by Art Crews)
- FLORIDA CHAMPION: KENDALL WINDHAM**
(September 2, 1985; from Jack Hart; Tampa, FL)
- IWF WOMEN'S CHAMPION: MISTY BLUE SIMMES**
(March 30, 1985; from Nickie Ryan; Malden, MA)
- INTERNATIONAL WRESTLING GRAND PRIX CHAMPION: ANTONIO INOKI**
(June 14, 1984; tournament final over Hulk Hogan; Japan)
- IWGP INTERNATIONAL TITLE: TITLE VACANT**
(tournament to be held January 1986)
- IWGP INTERNATIONAL TAG TEAM TITLE: TITLE VACANT**
(tournament to be held January 1986)
- IWGP JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT TITLE: TITLE VACANT**
(tournament to be held January 1986)
- * **MID-ATLANTIC CHAMPION: SAM HOUSTON**
(January 11, 1986; from Krusher Khrushchev; Atlanta)
- MID-SOUTH TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: STEVE WILLIAMS & TED DIBIASE**
(December 26, 1985; from Eddie Gilbert & The Nightmare; Biloxi, MS)
- MID-SOUTH TV CHAMPION: JAKE ROBERTS**
(January 1, 1986; from Butch Reed; Tulsa, OK)
- MID-SOUTHERN CHAMPION: BILL DUNDEE**
(December 31, 1985; from Jerry Lawler; Memphis)
- MID-SOUTHERN INTERNATIONAL CHAMPION: DUTCH MANTEL**
(November 9, 1985; from Phil Hickerson; Memphis)
- * **MID-SOUTHERN TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: TOMMY ROGERS & BOBBY FULTON**
(January 13, 1986; tournament final over Luke Williams & Butch Miller; Memphis)
- MISSOURI CHAMPION: HARLEY RACE**
(August 2, 1985; from Jerry Blackwell; St. Louis)
- NATIONAL CHAMPION: DUSTY RHODES**
(December 19, 1985; from Buddy Landell; Albuquerque, NM)
- NATIONAL TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: OLE & ARN ANDERSON**
(May 28, 1985; from T-Bolt Patterson & Manny Fernandez; Charlotte, NC)
- NWA INTERNATIONAL CHAMPION: JUMBO TSURUTA**
(August 31, 1983; from Bruiser Brody; Tokyo)
- NWA INTERNATIONAL JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: TIGER MASK**
(August 31, 1985; from Kuniaki Kobayashi; Tokyo)
- NWA INTERNATIONAL TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: JUMBO TSURUTA & TENRYU**
(September 3, 1984; from Bruiser Brody & Crusher Blackwell; Japan)
- NWA JAPANESE JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: TIGER MASK**
(August 31, 1985; from Hiro Saito; Tokyo)
- NWA JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: DENNY BROWN**
(September 15, 1985; from Gary Royal; Atlanta)
- NWA SIX-MAN TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: IVAN & NIKITA KOLOFF & KRUSHER KHRUSHCHEV**
(December 1984; first team to claim NWA six-man title)
- * **NWA TV CHAMPION: ARN ANDERSON**
(January 4, 1986; tournament final over Wahoo McDaniel; Charlotte, NC)
- NWA WORLD CHAMPION: RIC FLAIR**
(May 24, 1984; from Kerry Von Erich; Yokosuka City, Japan)
- NWA WORLD TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: RICK MORTON & ROBERT GIBSON**
(November 28, 1985; from Ivan & Nikita Koloff; Greensboro, NC)
- NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPION: DICK SLATER**
(January 1, 1986; from Butch Reed; Tulsa, OK)
- * **PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAMPION: TOM ZENK**
(January 21, 1986; from Bobby Jagers; Portland, OR)
- PACIFIC NORTHWEST TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: TOM ZENK & SCOTT DORING**
(December 21, 1985; over Mike Miller & Moondog Moretti; Portland, OR)
- PWF CHAMPION: STAN HANSEN**
(July 30, 1985; from Shohei Baba; Fukuoka, Japan)
- PWF TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: STAN HANSEN & TED DIBIASE**
(as mandated by PWF wrestling officials)
- POLYNESIAN PACIFIC CHAMPION: LARS ANDERSON**
(August 3, 1985; from Bad News Allen; Honolulu)
- POLYNESIAN PACIFIC TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: ROCKY & RICKY JOHNSON**
(December 19, 1984; from Superfly Tui & Super Samoan Sakalia; Honolulu)
- * **SOUTHEAST CHAMPION: NORVELL AUSTIN**
(January 6, 1986; from Exotic Adrian Street; Birmingham, AL)
- SOUTHEAST CONTINENTAL CHAMPION: ROBERT FULLER**
(December 23, 1985; from Roberto Soto; Birmingham, AL)
- SOUTHEAST TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: THE NIGHTMARES**
(October 5, 1985; from Brickhouse Brown & Norvell Austin; Birmingham, AL)
- SOUTHEAST U.S. JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: TIM HORNER**
(December 30, 1985; from Ken Timbs; Birmingham, AL)
- SOUTHERN CHAMPION: LEX LUGAR**
(November 19, 1985; from Wahoo McDaniel; Tampa, FL)
- TEXAS ALL-STAR U.S. CHAMPION: BIG BUBBA**
(December 21, 1985; from Al Madril; San Antonio, TX)
- TEXAS ALL-STAR JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: DALE VEASEY**
(September 1, 1985; tournament final over Terry Daniels; San Antonio, TX)
- TEXAS ALL-STAR TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: PAUL DIAMOND & SHAWN MICHAELS**
(November 17, 1985; from The Hoods; San Antonio, TX)
- TEXAS ALL-STAR ALL-ASIAN CHAMPIONS: PAUL DIAMOND & SHAWN MICHAELS**
(December 10, 1985; from Fujuki & Kowada; Odessa, TX)
- U.S. CHAMPION: MAGNUM T.A.**
(November 28, 1985; from Tully Blanchard; Greensboro, NC)
- U.S. TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: TITLE VACANT**
(most recently held by Billy Jack Haynes & Wahoo McDaniel)
- WORLD CLASS AMERICAN CHAMPION: RICK RUDE**
(November 4, 1985; from Iceman Parsons; Ft. Worth, TX)
- * **WORLD CLASS SIX-MAN CHAMPIONS: THE FABULOUS FREEBIRDS**
(January 3, 1986; from Kerry & Kevin Von Erich & Brian Adisas; Dallas, TX)
- WORLD CLASS TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: TITLE VACANT**
(most recently held by Chris Adams & Gino Hernandez)
- * **WORLD CLASS TV CHAMPION: BUDDY ROBERTS**
(January 6, 1986; from Mark Youngblood; Ft. Worth, TX)
- WORLD CLASS TEXAS CHAMPION: THE GRAPPLER**
(December 9, 1985; from Brian Adisas; Ft. Worth, TX)
- WORLD WOMEN'S CHAMPION: THE FABULOUS MOOLAH**
(November 25, 1985; from Wendi Richter; New York)
- WORLD WOMEN'S TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: LELANI KAI & JUDY MARTIN**
(August 1985; from Desiree Petersen & Velvet McIntyre; Egypt)
- * **WWC JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: INVADER III**
(January 18, 1986; from Eric Embry; San Juan, Puerto Rico)
- * **WWC NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPION: JOS LeDUC**
(January 11, 1986; from Hercules Ayala; Panama City, Panama)
- WWC NORTH AMERICAN TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: INVADER I & INVADER III**
(September 21, 1985; from Butch Miller & Luke Williams; San Juan, Puerto Rico)
- WWC PUERTO RICAN CHAMPION: ERIC EMBRY**
(August 3, 1985; from Super Medic; Bayaman, Puerto Rico)
- WWC TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: TITLE VACANT**
(most recently held by Butch Miller & Luke Williams)
- WWC UNIVERSAL CHAMPION: CARLOS COLON**
(June 15, 1985; from Dory Funk Jr.; San Juan, Puerto Rico)
- WWF INTERCONTINENTAL CHAMPION: TITO SANTANA**
(July 6, 1985; from Greg Valentine; Baltimore)
- WWF WORLD CHAMPION: HULK HOGAN**
(January 23, 1984; from The Iron Sheik; New York)
- WWF WORLD TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: GREG VALENTINE & BRUTUS BEEFCAKE**
(August 24, 1985; from Barry Windham & Mike Rotundo; Philadelphia)

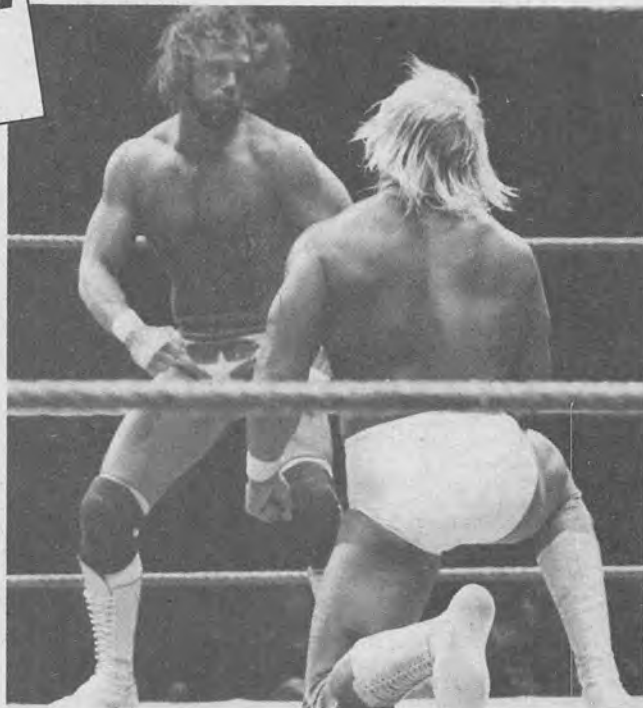
RANDY SAVAGE WWF CHAMPION

Photos by David Fitzgerald

**What Would This Mean
To Wrestling?**



Randy Savage shows his utter disrespect for Hulk Hogan as the two are searched by referee Dick Kroll (above). Savage beats the champion to his knees (right). The "Macho Man," backed by Elizabeth, declares himself WWF champion (opposite page).



**Randy Savage the
WWF champion?
Don't laugh—it may
happen sooner than
you think. Savage is
the most serious
contender yet to
Hogan's World title.
This story speculates
on how WWF would
change if Savage
succeed in his quest**

HULK HOGAN'S EYES droop with exhaustion. Bloody clumps of hair are matted against his head. His body, barely able to respond to the commands given by his brain, is bathed in a repulsive mixture of sweat and blood.

Randy Savage's eyes also reflect complete exhaustion. His manager, Elizabeth, stands by ringside; she looks more worried with every passing second of the match. Savage's body, like Hogan's, is bloody and sweaty.

Hogan and Savage. Matter and anti-matter. When they mix, the result is an explosion of cataclysmic proportions. Indeed, this latest match between the two men has been characterized by a level of violence uncommon to any wrestling match, much less a Hulk Hogan title defense.

Hogan and Savage lock up in midring. The Hulkster peppers his opponent's head with a stinging series of closed-fist blows. Savage is dazed, and Hogan catapults himself into the ropes, rebounds, and hurls himself in the air for a well-directed elbowsmash. Savage, dazed but cognizant, manages to roll himself out of the way. Hogan's elbow collides with the mat, sending burning messages of pain up his arm and through his body.

In a superhuman effort, Savage scrambles to the top rope. Before Hogan can realize what is happening, the Macho Man delivers a flying elbowsmash to Hogan's ribs. The champion is writhing in utter pain. For the first time in the match, Elizabeth smiles.

Savage seizes the moment. He hooks the leg and goes for the pinfall. At the

VAGE— MPION!

2½-count, Hogan kicks out and 20,000 fans cheer insanely. But Hogan is still dazed. Savage moves in for another pin, but Hogan kicks out again. Hogan jumps to his feet, rebounds off the ropes, and prepares to deliver a stinging legdrop, BUT—as Hogan hits the ropes, Elizabeth, out of sight of the referee, trips him up from ringside. Hogan is on his back, dazed and disoriented. Savage covers Hogan for the pinfall, hooks the leg, and the referee slaps the mat.

Hogan kicks out, but it's too late: Randy Savage is the new WWF heavy-weight champion. Hulk Hogan is now merely one name on a long list of championship contenders. Hulkamania is no more.

The above scenario is not so far-fetched. Indeed, there are certain oddsmakers who are saying that there's a 50-50 chance Savage will become the new WWF champion between the time this story is written and the time this magazine reaches your newsstand.

Never before in the history of Hulk Hogan's WWF title reign has there been so much furor surrounding a challenger to his title. But never before has there been a challenger with the fire, determination, and capability of Savage.

If Hogan can turn back Savage's title challenges, then he may truly be the most invincible man in the sport.

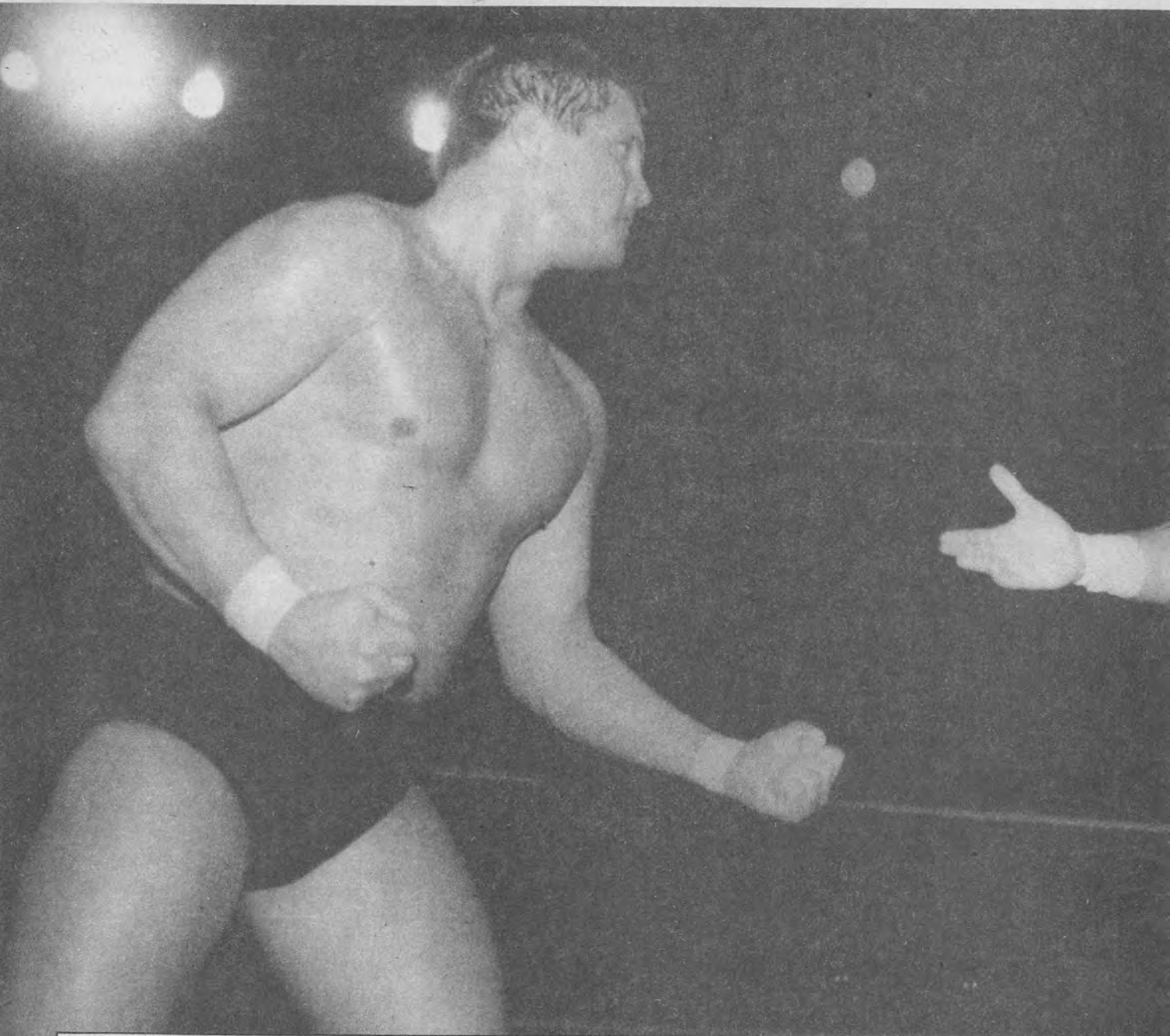
But what if he can't? What if Hogan fails and Randy Savage becomes the new WWF champion? What would this mean to wrestling? Let's do some speculation in several major categories:

The media attention: With Savage as WWF champion, there are two ways the media might turn:

(1) All the attention currently lavished upon Hogan would be directed toward Savage and Elizabeth. They would be placed under enormous pressure to make personal appearances. If the media focused its attention on the beautiful Elizabeth, Savage could become very resentful and jealous, which could lead to an eventual split. A perti-

(Continued on page 58)





Chris Adams had to hold himself back from slugging his partner, Gino Hernandez, who considers not returning Chris' World Class tag team belt (above). During a later interview, Hernandez points threateningly in Adams' face (below left). This time, however, Adams does not restrain himself (below right).



No Friends, No Future . . .

AND CHRIS ADAMS DESERVES WHAT'S COMING TO HIM!



For years, Chris Adams has been out to do what's best for only one man: Chris Adams.

Along the way he has alienated everyone who has crossed his path. Now Adams stands alone—one man against a sport. And he's bound to lose

THE STRANGE CASE of "Gentleman" Chris Adams. It sounds like the title of a Sherlock Holmes short story. But even the master detective himself would have trouble getting to the heart of the truth—mainly, to discover why Chris Adams chooses to stand alone in a world where friends, even temporary ones, are a highly valued commodity.

To anticipate Adams' future, which at this point looks very bleak indeed, we must review his past.

Adams made his professional ring debut in 1978, but didn't rise to national prominence until late 1983 when he began wrestling in the World Class area. Adams developed a close friendship with the Von Erichs, and feuded violently with Jim Garvin.

Because Garvin had the American title Ad-
(Continued on page 62)

HOTSEAT

STAN HANSEN

"NOBODY'S TOUGHER THAN 'THE MAN'!"

STAN HANSEN. AWA World Champion. Professional handshaker. Pleased to meet you. Now get the hell out of my face. Stan Hansen. Roughest, toughest, meanest hombre to ever lace on boots. Chews tobacco and opponents. Use your head for a spittoon, given half a reason. Stan Hansen. Devoted family man. That's Hansen, as in "I wear the pants son." Kids coming out his cauliflowered ears. Nine of 'em—you can look it up—and every one of them has memorized his "yes sirs" and "no sirs." Wife, too, though thank the Lord he has only one of them. Stan Hansen. Domestic rulebreaker. Wife's ears are cauliflowering also. Stan Hansen. Professional neckbreaker. Ever try to interview a man who lists breaking necks as his favorite hobby? Assistant Editor Eddie Ellner did. Claims it was as pleasant as the morning after a bottle of Tequila. Stan Hansen. Fire-eater. Ever try to interview a man in a windowless room after he polished off three quarts of spicy chili and beans? Eddie Ellner did. Lost his sense of smell for two weeks. Stan Hansen. Politician. Hates everyone with equal zeal. Feels the death penalty is too lenient for certain criminals. Would like to see torture make a comeback. Stan

Hansen. Diplomat. Has called Japan, a country that accounts for three-quarters of his bank account, "a big, slanty-eyed roach motel." Stan Hansen. Stan Hansen. Stan Hansen. What follows is Stan at his Hansenist, a homicidal Will Rogers, Mark Twain turned thug. This interview is rated R for rugged. It's not recommended for small children or fans with pacemakers.

“

I don't like bums who ask me for my hard-earned money. If he wanted a nickle, he should get a job. I'da killed the skunk if it weren't against the law.

”

broke the arm of a panhandler who asked you for a nickel?

A: He was making eyes at my wife. I don't like bums who ask me for my hard-earned money, anyway. I probably woulda popped him if my wife wasn't there. But he was making noises at her. I didn't like it.

Q: The newspapers reported that the man was an epileptic. That could be why he was making noises.

A: Yeah. But I didn't know it at the time, did I? Did I? And the guy got me PO'd. I don't care what the hell he is. I ain't the World Bank. If he wanted a nickel, then he should get a job. I got enough people bothering me as it is. The man wouldn't take no for an answer. He was trying to rob me. I defended myself.

Q: Is that justification for breaking a sick man's arm?

A: Read my lips, jerk. I didn't know he was sick. And it don't matter. He was bothering me. I'da killed the skunk if it weren't against the damn law.

Q: How did your wife react?

A: She says to me, 'Stanley, be gentle, Stanley.' &***%! I told her if she didn't walk with such a wiggle,





“

If the money was right, I'd wrestle anyone. I've wrestled Hogan and Flair. It'd be no big thrill to wrestle them again.

”

then no one would bother us. Then I told her to gentle this and I smacked her.

Q: You struck your wife?

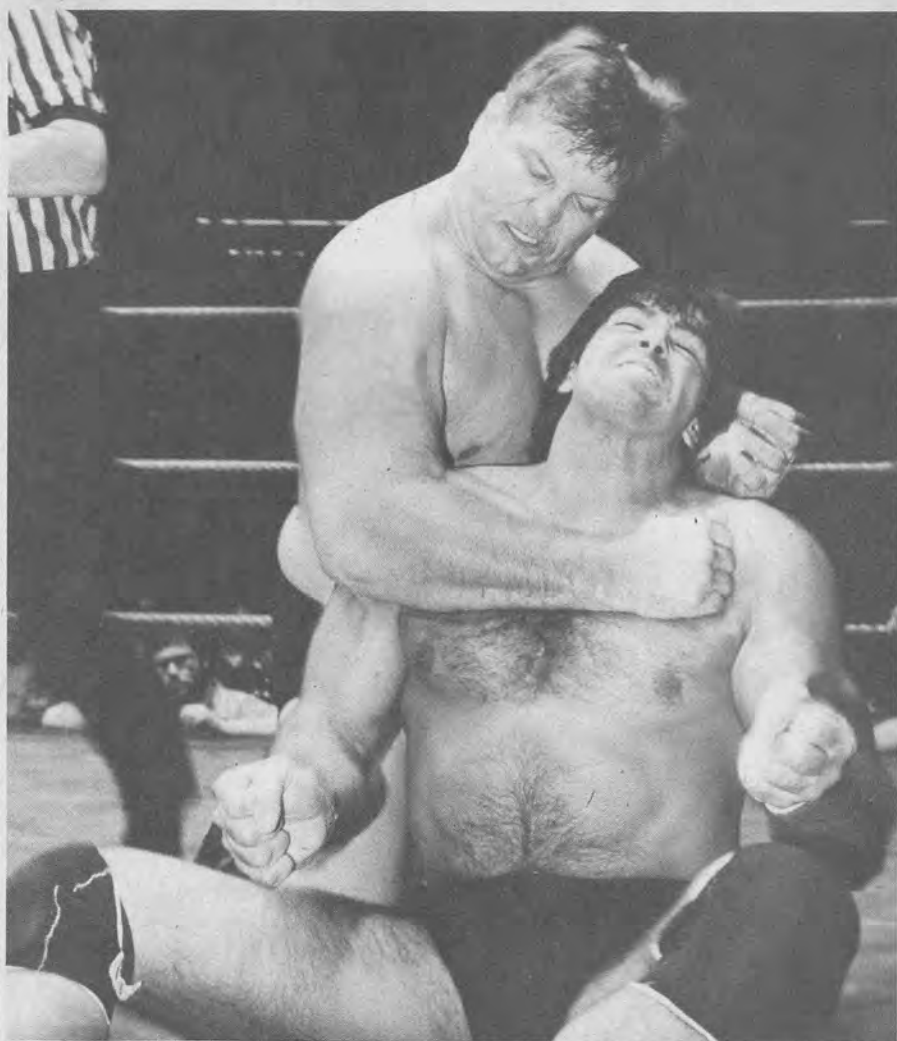
A: Aaah, I clipped a backhand cross her head. She's seen worse, believe me. She needed to be taught a lesson. Seems she always needs to be taught a lesson.

Q: Would you consider yourself a good father and husband?

A: I didn't get me nine kids by praying to the tooth fairy. I'm a helluva good father. My kids get anything they want. The wife gets everything she wants. I spoil my brood rotten. But I ain't no angel. I get respect. I demand it. Nobody's tougher than The Man.

Q: Why did you have so many children?

A: I like my wife to be preg-a-nant. A



Hansen set up his title victory over Rick Martel with a punishing performance four days earlier in St. Paul. The Bad Man from Borger, Texas, drives his forearm into Martel's neck.

big belly keeps her home, where she belongs. Barefoot and pregnant, that's what the Japs always say. They got themselves damn fine wives. Damn fine. Jap wives are mighty fine.

Q: Was your victory over Martel the highlight of your career?

A: Not even close. I was once paid \$125,000 for a one-night tournament in Japan. I made peanuts in comparison for the Martel bout.

Q: I was speaking more in terms of prestige and personal glory. Isn't it terribly satisfying to be recognized as AWA World champion?

A: I couldn't very well feed my family on your personal glory. There'd be nine hungry kids, panhandling, if their daddy was out searching for personal glory. And we know what can happen to panhandlers, now, don't we. If I thought I could make more dough without the belt,

it'd be off faster than a space shuttle. I give a damn about money. Anything else is *&%\$.

Q: You sound a lot like your friend Bruiser Brody.

A: With good reason. Brody's a good man. One of the few good men around.

Q: I spoke to Brody last October and when I asked how he'd best describe his friend Stan Hansen, he said you kind of remind him of a wart.

A: Heh, heh. Hairy sumbitch. Heh.

Q: A match against WWF champion Hulk Hogan would undoubtedly result in a tremendous gate. Your beefy paycheck notwithstanding, wouldn't you love to wrestle Hogan—or Ric Flair, for that matter—and establish a preeminent world champion?

A: If the money was right, I'd wrestle anyone. I've already wrestled Ho-



Hansen stomps repeatedly at Martel, who is trying to roll back into the ring. His attack was relentless.

gan and Flair. It'd be no big thrill to wrestle them again.

Q: What's your opinion of the other two world champions?

A: They make a friggin' fortune. Hogan used to be all right before he was gelded by all them dancing lunatics in the WWF. Now he's about as tough as a cartoon character. Same goes for Flair. He was hungry in his younger days. Now he's a gutless showboat. Two bleached-blond bozos. They couldn't even give me a good sweat. I'd pop 'em like zits.

Q: Did you feel Martel's back injury hampered his performance against you?

A: That question stinks spit.

Q: Why do you say that?

A: 'Cause I says, so! All right! The question stinks. Period. Gimme a new one. Stan Hansen is gettin' restless.

Q: What could possibly . . .

A: Lookie here, boy, listen up and I'll tell you what's what. My business adviser—who's no longer with me—sidles up to me about five

months ago and says to me, "Stanley, if you want that Magnum and if you're serious about that cabin down in Dallas, then, boy, you're gonna have to start making more wampum. Understand?" Now I am dead serious about that cabin in Dallas and this cabin comes with a very serious price tag. One point five million. The Magnum costs slightly less than that. I got a family of 10 to support. I need money and lots of it. Between Japan and the AWA belt, I could swing it. That's when I figure I gotta hatchet Martel. That bad back of his is a real convenient excuse. I don't care if he was healthy as an oak. No way was he keeping that crown. If I never spotted that cabin, he'd still have his title. The title's a real pain in the butt, but it pays a lot of money. When the boat and the house are paid for, I'll drop the belt in a sewer somewhere. Probably fall right on Martel's head. Did you ever hear the one about the Canuck and the policeman's daughter? Funny as all hell. Wish I



Hansen was unconcerned about being disqualified. His intention was to injure Martel's back, and he succeeded.



“

To hear a vertebra snap like a twig is the kindest sound of all. It's the only thing in the world I'd do for nothing.

”

remembered it.

Q: Do you have *any* professional goals?

A: I'd like to break Sgt. Slaughter's neck. I don't like the loud-mouthed fool.

Q: It gives you a real thrill to injure someone, doesn't it?

A: Oh yeah. You bet your sweet butt it does. To hear a vertebra snap like a twig is the kindest sound of all. It's the only thing in the world I'd do for nothing. Just for the pleasure of hearing bones break and men cry. I love it.

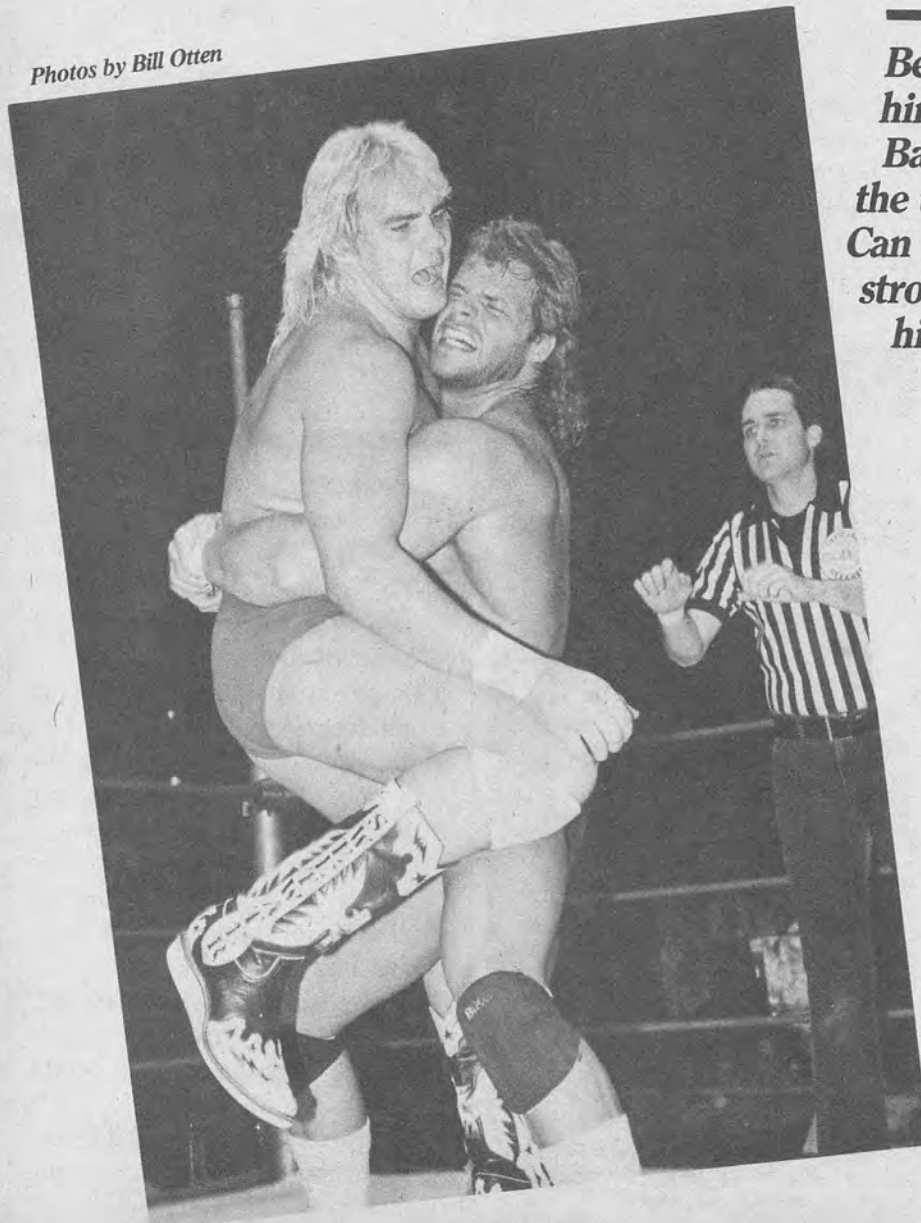
Q: That concludes this interview with Stan Hansen, recently crowned AWA champion of the world. Thank you for your time.

A: I'm just a humble, family man. Remember that. Just a family man. □

Dark Days For The Sunshine State

IS LEX LUGAR TOO TOUGH FOR BARRY WINDHAM?

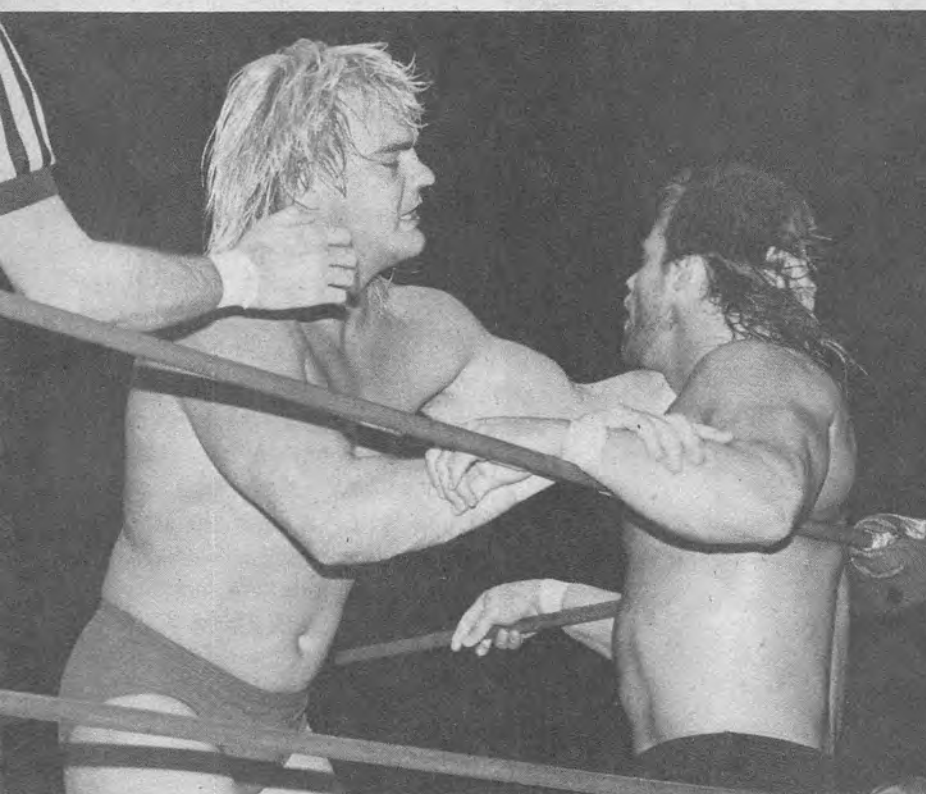
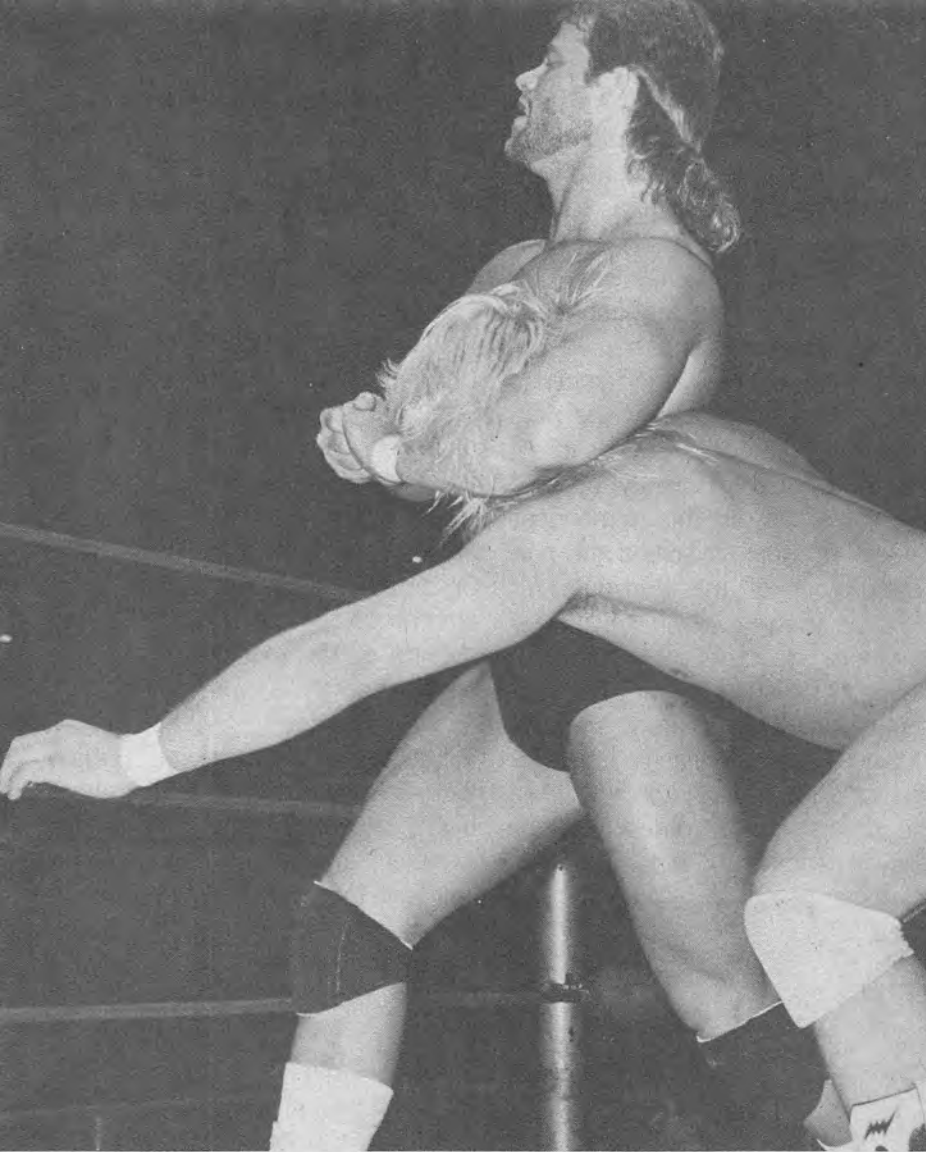
Photos by Bill Otten



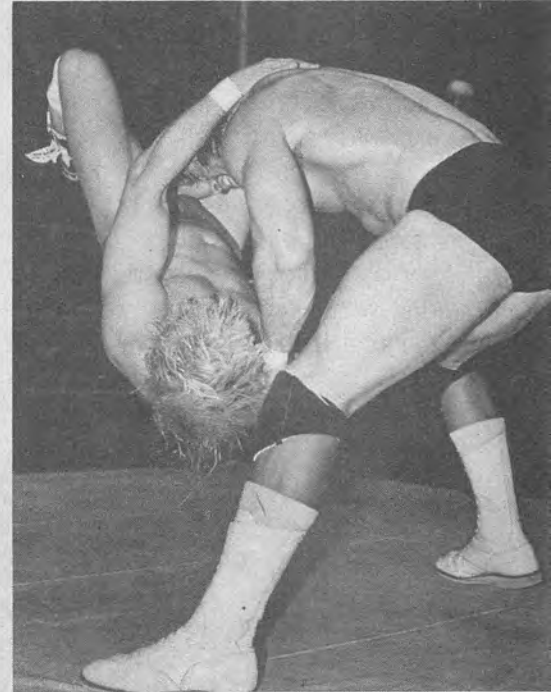
Before he even laid a hand on him, Lex Luger had main rival Barry Windham quaking with the unnatural fear of nightmares. Can Windham defy the mysterious strongman in real life and regain his confidence? Or is this the end of Barry Windham?

THE TAPE WAS playing itself over in a lolling, hypnotic cadence when it was shattered by the loud and whining crash of glass and steel. Black helmeted soldiers, their faces ugly twisted facades of flesh, stormed into the room and grabbed the sleeping figure from the bed. Before he could react or scream, the soldiers slapped a dark hood over his head and drew it tight. Sharp gun butts speared him and one was cracked over his forehead, sending him back to muddled unconsciousness.

He awoke in a harshly lit, cavernous room whose gray walls climbed infinitely into the air. His hood had been replaced by a gangling mesh screen that dizzied the landscape. He felt sick. A flash of light caught



his attention and he turned reluctantly toward it. Out of the light walked a muscular apparition. It moved with hostile grace, dipping in and out of the light with a speed that made it untrackable. His straps vanished and he rose from his chair. The apparition approached, muscles screaming, grabbed for him, and yanked his arm from the socket. A scream bounced off his skull as he



Opposite page: The awesome Luger traps Windham in a bearhug. Lop left: Lex leads Barry around the ring by his head. Left: Backed into a corner, the inexperienced Luger looks to manager Hiro Matsuda for advice. Above: Standing 6'8" and possessing the power that he does, Luger has a body-slam that is devastating.

watched the apparition chew the bloody limb.

Barry Windham awoke, bathed in sweat, and instinctively groped for his left arm. It was still there. It was *always* still there, although after a similar dream last week, panic set in when his foot fell asleep and he was sure he had lost it. Windham's garish nightmares of dismemberment and mutilation had lasted for two weeks. Last week he finally identified the burly apparition as Lex Luger and since then the dreams had grown more lurid and violent.

The results never varied. Wind-

ham was always caught off-guard, listening to music, sometimes reading a book. The dreams always left him with the disquieting sensation that his fate was predetermined, that all his strength and experience, his fierce pride, his heritage was useless to the challenge of Lex Luger.

His sense in the rightness of things was being undermined. "I am scared of no man, certainly not a rookie like Lex Luger," Windham scrupulously maintains, but his brother, Kendall, offers a differing explanation.

"Barry and I went late one night to the arena to practice some moves, but when we got there, Luger and Hiro Matsuda were in the ring working out. While we hadn't planned it this way, it was obvious that this was an opportunity to study Luger and Matsuda during a

training session.

"We took seats behind the curtain, within earshot of both men, although it was very difficult understanding what Matsuda was saying. Then we realized that he was speaking Japanese. They were outside the ring. Matsuda annointed Luger's head with oil, barked out some kind of ritualistic gibberish and pointed Luger toward the ring.

"All of a sudden, Luger's chest begins to heave violently up and down. He lets out this tremendous whoop—I swear, it scared the holy bejesus out of me—he puts his mitts on the ring apron and begins to strain.

"Barry whispers to me that he's doing isometrics. Y'know, straining muscles against each other or against an immovable object, when the ring starts to move. Now the ring in Tampa is made of rein-

forced steel and must weigh close to a ton—and Luger is moving it.

"I turn to look at Barry and he's staring at Luger with his mouth wide open. I've never seen Barry look so awed in my life. The dreams started happening soon after that."

It's the nature of men named Mulligan and Windham to be fearless. Blackjack Mulligan approached every match with a lunatic's determination. *This could be it*, he'd say, *it's either kill or be killed*. So it is with his oldest son. Or did that abandon die with the emergence of Lex Luger? When dreams of destruction began their steady paralysis of Windham's nerve.

Except for Kendall and Barry's lucky glimpse of their workout that night, Luger's training sessions are complete mysteries. Matsuda will only say that they "aid in concentration." Luger's increased concentration has allowed him to capture the Southern championship with ease.

"It's largely a matter of nutrition," the manager said vaguely and dismissed all further questions.

Lex Luger bides his time with a patient eye. His first several appearances before the media were marked by a reluctance to speak, let alone boast. Now, perhaps sensing the imminent collapse of his biggest rival, Luger resembles the cocksure certainty of a former Southern champion, Rick Rude.

"School is in session," he says slyly. "I'm a student-teacher. What Matsuda teaches me, I practice on my opponents. I never realized how powerful a man I was. His techniques have made me a killer. There isn't a man in the world who can budge me. Blackjerk Mulligan is going to have one less son after I'm through with Barry Windham.

"I know Windham's frightened. I can smell it."

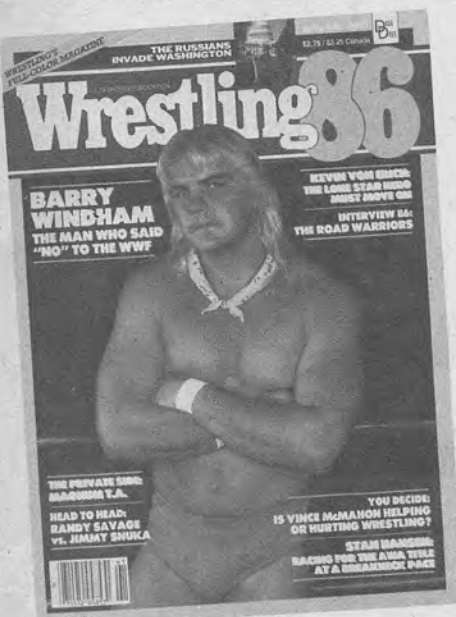
It's now up to Barry Windham to prove that dreams vanquish inside the ring. □



Too exhausted to apply his scientific style, Windham desperately grabs Luger's hair. From an athletic standpoint, this brewing feud is the best in the Florida area in years.

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The telephone wires sizzle every month as two top wrestlers voice their rage and hostility toward each other. This is the unedited transcript of their conversation, your chance to see the raw emotion that results when two antagonists face off . . . One on One

IT IS SAID that hell hath no fury like a woman scorned. If that statement is true, then Tully Blanchard's life will soon become a living hell.

When Blanchard launched his search for the "Perfect 10" in late 1984, few could have anticipated that his ideal woman would be Baby Doll, the former valet of Blanchard's Texas nemesis, Gino Hernandez.

The two quickly became inseparable. Just as quickly, Baby Doll established a reputation for interfering in matches that was unparalleled by any valet in wrestling.

At the July 6, 1985, Great American Bash card, Dusty Rhodes won a cage match with Tully, capturing Blanchard's NWA TV title and gaining the services of Baby Doll for 30 days. During that time, Baby Doll stole Rhodes' credit cards and ran up a huge bill with a vacation in Hawaii.

In December, Baby Doll attempted much the same thing, this time traveling to Acapulco with a ticket she said was from Blanchard. Confronting her on television, Blanchard said he never gave Baby Doll a ticket, that she in fact stole his money for the vacation. He then began slapping her. Rhodes stormed the interview area and saved her from a potentially severe beating.

Later that same day, Ric Flair and Blanchard engineered a double-team

ONE ON ONE



"I was used and abused. And I just wasn't going to stand for it anymore. You're less than a man."

—Baby Doll

beating of Rhodes. This time, Baby Doll rushed to Dusty's aid, beating on Tully. After Magnum T.A. helped break up the melee, Baby Doll left the ring area with Rhodes, later saying that nobody will ever again treat her the way Blanchard treated her, and that she was going to stay with Rhodes.

Baby Doll now travels everywhere with Rhodes, and Blanchard is incensed by the situation. *Inside Wrestling* is fortunate to be able to bring the former wrestler-valet combination of Blanchard and Baby Doll together to discuss recent events . . . "One on One."

TULLY BLANCHARD:

You're looking good, Baby Doll. I see you've gone on the Dusty

Rhodes seafood diet. Whenever you see food, you eat it. Are those really your legs, or did a cell block of cellulite escape from jail?

BABY DOLL:

"A cell block of cellulite." Gee, Tully, that's really intelligent. Makes a lot of sense. You know, now that my eyes are open, I can see that it's that limited intelligence of yours that caused you to treat me the way you did. You're a smart man, there, Tully, a smart man. Smart enough to yell "I quit!" when Magnum T.A. has you where he wants, right?

TB: It's funny how on a referee's paltry salary, the official who allegedly heard me say "I quit" was

N ONE



"You and Dusty create a formidable couple. I'd certainly hate to get between you two."

—Tully Blanchard

spotted around town the next week in a brand new Cordoba. And while we're on the subject of brains, you bimbo, that was one helluva move you made throwing that chair into the ring for Magnum to use. Why didn't you just hit me over the head with a hammer and stab me in the back? To think, we once shared romantic sunsets on the beaches of Honolulu. I could retch.

BD: We never . . . please, Tully, let's be serious. There was no love between us. There was something between us. Once. But it wasn't love. On my side, I'm not quite sure what it was, but I've learned a lot since then. On your side, it definitely wasn't love. I'm not

even sure you could call it lust. I don't know what you'd call it, but I'd call it a case where I was used and abused. And I just wasn't going to stand for it anymore, least of all from a puny man like you—no, not a man, *less* than a man. You're less than a man, Tully, in more ways than I can speak of here, I know that for a *fact*.

TB: Love? Love? Are you crazy, drunk, or both? No, my beefy babushka, I certainly wouldn't call it love. I'd call it myopia. My eyes, I've learned recently, have a slight astigmatism that caused tremendous refractory problems. My poor vision made you seem fetching, almost pretty. With a pair of

contacts, my mistakes are all too evident. You and Dusty create a formidable couple. I'd certainly hate to get between you two.

BD: You'd hate it, but you'll know what it's like, because you'll be right between us in the ring when we get through with taking care of Arn Anderson. You're next, little boy, and when Dusty is through with you it's going to make the beating Magnum gave you at Starrcade feel like a day in the country. Come to think of it, maybe you should save your sorry skin and quit wrestling and move to the country. Then you could shovel manure all day long, instead of just the few minutes you're in front of the TV cameras.

TB: Shoveling manure reminds me of your breath when you'd wake up in the morning. Baby Doll, don't you see what's happening? Bouncing from Gino Hernandez to me and now to Dusty Rhodes and Magnum T.A. Who's next? Kamala? Abdullah the Butcher? Baby Doll, you're outgrowing the entire wrestling world. You're a laughingstock. Do yourself a favor. Check into a fat farm for half a year and then marry a dentist. Go make a family. No, on second thought, *don't* make a family. The thought of you reproducing is enough to cause me to turn in my membership card to the human race.

BD: The human race wouldn't have you, Tully. And once I spread the *truth* about you around, no self-respecting woman will have you, either. Face it, Tully, you're a washout. As a wrestler, as a lover, and as a man. All you're good for now is to see how much punishment you'll take before putting your tail between your legs and running like a dog. My bet is it won't take much. And I'll be there, Tully, laughing at you every step of the way. □

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THE Wrestler



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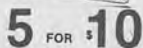
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SINCERELY YOURS

(Continued from page 6)

Hogan and Piper, have forgotten the kind of wrestler Bob Backlund was. These days, especially in the WWF, being a fine wrestler comes in a poor second to cartoon shows and record albums. Regardless of such nonsense, the name of the sport is still wrestling and I think Bob Backlund was among the best ever. Anyone who cares to argue the point need only look back on the men Backlund defeated when he held the title: Hulk Hogan, Sgt. Slaughter, Greg Valentine, Jimmy Snuka, Stan Hansen, and John Studd, just to name a few. I think that Backlund had a good shot at beating Bruno Sammartino's record title reign of 7½ years if he wasn't robbed of his crown.

It's a sad commentary on the state



After defeating the sport's toughest men for nearly six years as WWF champion, Bob Backlund (battling Cowboy Bob Orton) became wrestling's forgotten man, notes Gary Shaffer.

of wrestling when there is no room in the sport for a superb grappler like Bob Backlund.

GARY SHAFFER
Bedford, PA

FORLORN OVER VAUGHN

We here in the rain country of Klamath Falls, Oregon, absolutely love Ricky Vaughn (Lance Von Erich) and were sad to see him go. Portland wrestling seems so empty without him. Words cannot describe how much we love him and miss him. Our only hope is that after he defeats Ric Flair for the NWA title he will defend it in his old home from time to time. We know



Lance Von Erich wrestles Playboy Buddy Rose in one of his last Pacific Northwest matches. Oregonian Cyndi Iglum misses Lance but wishes him well in the World Class region.

Ricky—oops, sorry—we know *Lance* will *never* forget his fans, just as we will never forget him. Good luck, Lance Von Erich, in everything you do.

CYNDI IGLUM
Klammoth Falls, OR

GONE WITH THE WINDHAM

An open letter to Barry Windham:

I think you are the best wrestler in the world today. When you were in the WWF and lost the tag team title twice (because of your rulebreaking opponents), I didn't care. I always will like you whether you have a title or not. Even though I am unable to see

(Continued on page 52)

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SINCERELY YOURS

(Continued from page 51)

you in person anymore, I was happy that you went to Florida. With the resurgence of the Kevin Sullivan clan, your family needs your special talents down South. You're the straw that will break Kevin Sullivan's back. His polytheistic devil cult must be stopped. Too many innocent children have already fallen under its evil charms. I know parents down in the Sunshine State can sleep easier at night knowing that you are on the scene. After you dispatch with those cross-burning infidels, I do hope you'd consider returning to New York. I know there are thousands of girls like me who love to watch you in action, although no one is a bigger fan. Barry, good luck in your every endeavor. I love you.

SUZANNE DONIZELLA
Brooklyn, NY

Since Barry Windham made his career decision to move back to Florida, the only news I've heard about him is the regular reports of his head getting busted open by Lex Luger. What happened to the Young Lion? He and Rotundo were the most exciting tag team I had ever seen in the ring. Separately, they are about as inspiring as day-old chile dogs. The best thing they could do would be to get back together and get on their knees and pray the WWF will take them back. Windham was better off homesick.

CHAZBO GALLAGHER
Plantation, FL

SAVAGE DAYS AHEAD

I sleep easier these days, secure in the knowledge that Randy Savage will soon defeat Hulk Hogan for the WWF championship. With the title safely in the "Macho Man's" mitts, all three world championships will be, for the first time ever, possessed by cunning stalwarts of manhood: Ric Flair, Randy Savage, and Stan Hansen. What a glorious threesome! Never has pro wrestling been better represented on the top. I can't think of a worthy challenger to any of the major belts now, al-



Randy Savage has his hand raised after virtually every match. Reader Kent Allen predicts that he will soon have his hand raised after a match with WWF champion Hulk Hogan.

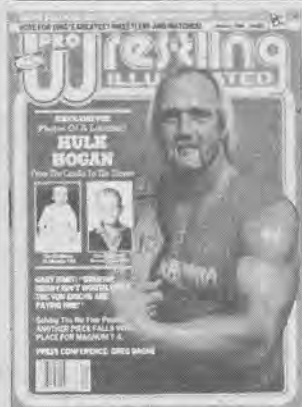
though Bruiser Brody against any of the champions would be a spectacular contest. What a welcomed relief from the dreary defenses of Martel, Backlund, Hogan, Gagne, and Rhodes. I feel good about wrestling for the first time in years.

I think Savage will prove to be the greatest champion of all time. Youth is his number one ally and his is a determination that swallows competition. He and Elizabeth remind me of the days when John and Jackie ruled the roost—Camelot returns to the wrestling ring! I feel no pity for the Hulkster. His parade in the sun lasted far too long as it was, and with all the money he must have socked away by now, I'm sure he'll discover some way to console himself.

KENT ALLEN
Cape May, NJ □

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DRESSING ROOM

(Continued from page 10)

conducts interviews he sincerely believes in the superiority of the Soviet system. But I believe there are personal moments when he thinks about the beauty of America and its guarantees of freedom. He's an intelligent man and has to be aware that the greatness of the country he denounces is his right to be able to denounce it, beat up on those who support it, and still be paid enough money to buy an expensive home and drive a sparkling new Cadillac.

I decided to pay a visit to Khrushchev after a discussion I had with Eddie Ellner and Craig Peters. Days before, Eddie had interviewed Krusher for a "Q & A" in our sister magazine, *The Wrestler*. He, too, had detected a degree of self-doubt in Khrushchev's answers. "Expounding on the virtues of communism and the deficiencies of the American culture, he sounded extremely sure of himself," Eddie told me. "But there was one part of the interview in which he spoke about how his relationship with his father deteriorated after he had changed his allegiance. His eyes welled up and his voice softened a bit. He had to gather himself before he could go on with the rest of the interview."

For that short moment, he had become a Darsow—an American—again.

Craig Peters offered an interesting analogy. "Krusher Khrushchev is going through the same mental torment that Mr. Spock went through on *Star Trek*."

Half human and half Vulcan, Spock was determined to call himself Vulcan, living strictly by the code of logic and suppressing any human emotionalism. Although it was not apparent to everybody with whom he came in contact, those closest to him knew that he was fighting a con-



As Krusher Darsow, Khrushchev's appearance was completely different—but more important, he was a solid citizen.

stant mental battle to keep his human half from surfacing.

Khrushchev, for now, is winning the battle (or losing it, depending on your perspective). But I think there is hope for the man. When I visited him, it was Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, and he was watching a tribute to the black leader on TV. He wouldn't talk to me until it was over. He was showing obvious admiration for a man who used the American system to improve life for his people and in the process made the country a better place to live for all of us. In his interview, Ellner accused Khrushchev of taking the coward's way out by dumping America, rather than try to make it a better place. Krusher laughed off the question. His admiration of Martin Luther King is an obvious contradiction. It's that kind of contradiction that indicates to me that there remains some hope.

Of course, you have to look far beneath the surface to see any softness in his rugged Soviet exterior. But if outsiders can detect it, I have to assume that the Ko-

(Continued on page 57)










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DRESSING ROOM

(Continued from page 55)

lofts must have detected it as well. The relationship between Khrushchev and the Koloffs is crucial to any change that might occur. I don't think Ivan and Nikita ever trusted Krusher 100 percent. He's always been the the "third Russian," the odd man out. It is particularly baffling to me that the Koloffs enlisted the services of Baron Von Raschke when they could have gone on as a pair until Khrushchev recovered. The six-man title doesn't seem very important to them, anyway.

As he did in *The Wrestler* interview, Khrushchev vehemently denied that there was any possibility that he would change his attitude toward America. Spock, though, would tell Dr. McCoy that he was incapable of experiencing human emotions. We all knew better. □

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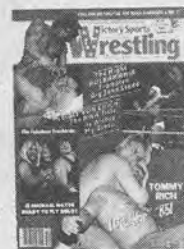


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RANDY SAVAGE

(Continued from page 35)



nent question: Does Savage have the personality to handle the kind of media attention that Hogan has thus far enjoyed?

(2) The media would *still* concentrate on Hogan as the number one personality in the WWF. This would make Savage more jealous than ever. But it might also devalue the worth of the WWF title—after all, lavishing attention on the WWF champion is one thing; lavishing attention on a contender is something else again.

The title picture: The WWF currently balks at offering fan favorites title matches against Hogan. With Savage as champion, a massive scramble for contention spots would ensue. It is likely that in the rush for the number one contender's position, several ugly feuds might result. It is equally likely that men whose careers are relatively stagnant in the WWF would find themselves in the thick of title contention.

And fans would begin thinking about the next changing of the guard: Would Hogan be favored to regain the title, or would the fans rally behind

A pained Hulk Hogan is obviously concerned for his title. Randy Savage seems more concerned with the reaction of the fans.

Rick Steamboat? Or Paul Orndorff? Or Junkyard Dog? Or Hillbilly Jim? Or Tito Santana?

The Hulkster himself: Hogan would, of course, be entitled to a series of rematches. But let's assume for a moment that he fails in his rematches and Savage maintains a firm grip on the title. What happens to Hogan's stature as a media celebrity? What about the merchandising industry that has been built up around Hogan as WWF champion? Would that industry collapse, or would Hogan continue to maintain his popularity despite his status as challenger?

And what would that status as challenger do to Hogan himself? Is his personality strong enough to handle a loss of the belt? Every fibre of Hogan's being is tied up in his title reign; what happens when the title is taken away? Hogan might become

(Continued on page 60)

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RANDY SAVAGE

(Continued from page 58)



Hogan, himself barely conscious, sees to referee Kroll, who has been knocked out in the course of the wild brawl (above). Hogan is sparked back to life by the sight of Savage holding his WWF belt (below). It is quite possible that Savage will take that belt for real in the near future.

stronger than ever, drawing on the support of his fans to regain the title at any cost. Or the loss might shock his personality to the degree that he might revert to his rulebreaking personality that was guided by Fred Blassie some years ago.

The Savage question: There is no doubt that the man who wears the WWF heavyweight belt sets the tone for the entire federation. Think back to the reigns of Bruno Sammartino and Bob Backlund. The personality of the WWF itself was intrinsically tied to the personality of those men during their respective reigns. And certainly the same can be said of Hulk Hogan's reign thus far.

What kind of tone might Savage set for the WWF? The Macho Man is a massive egotist, to be sure. Certainly, he covets the massive media attention that Hogan enjoys, but the question is: Does the media attend Hogan because he is WWF champion or because he is Hogan? Savage might not like the answer to that question, and the predominant tone in the WWF would become one of jealousy and anger rather than championship excellence and celebrity.

Randy Savage stands in the center of the ring, chin cocked arrogantly in the air, proudly wearing the WWF championship belt. Elizabeth polishes



the belt as the wrestler and his manager—and 20,000 fans—await the arrival of Savage's challenger.

A machine-gun guitar line rumbles through the arena sound system. The theme song that hadn't been heard in many long months (since the release of *The Wrestling Album*) once again causes 20,000 fans to jump to their feet in anticipation.

A dynamic crescendo. A triple blast of sound. Another. By now, the fans' cheers are drowning out Survivor's anthemic "Eye Of The Tiger." They await the arrival of the former champion and current number one challenger to the WWF heavyweight title.

And in the center of the ring, Randy Savage just smiles. □

Wrestling

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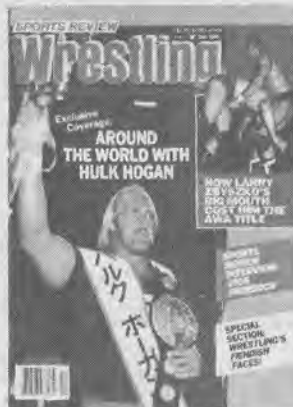
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CHRIS ADAMS

(Continued from page 37)

ams wanted, he became Adams' first real enemy in the World Class area.

As a result of Adams' feud with Garvin, he acquired the services of Sunshine. After a few months, Adams claimed she was unreliable and fired her.

Adams' former valet, friend, and confidant—Sunshine—had become his next enemy.

After Adams fired Sunshine, he took on Gary Hart as his manager to help him "escape from the shadow of the Von Erichs." A brutal feud with Kevin and Kerry erupted, and their war lasted nearly two years.

Adams' closest friends when he entered the World Class area—the Von Erichs—had joined the enemies list.

Within a few months, Adams fired Gary Hart due to a controversy that took place in an "I Quit" match. A feud between Hart and Adams resulted, with Hart sending several members of his stable to wage war with Chris.

Adams' former manager had become yet another name on the growing list of anti-Adams forces in the World Class area.

In 1985, Adams joined forces with Gino Hernandez to forge a tag team that quickly became known as "The Dynamic Duo." The combination of Adams and Hernandez captured the World Class tag team belts, but a rift developed between the two men on Christmas night 1985, and a feud seems imminent.

Adams' former tag team partner had become still another individual with whom he was at odds.

A valet. A family of close friends. A manager. A championship tag team partner. The World Class fans themselves. All had been inseparable to Chris Adams at one point in his life, and all had

become his sworn enemies.

Now Adams stands alone, a man without friends or allies. Everywhere he turns, he sees an enemy. Everywhere he turns he sees someone who would sleep soundly should the "Gentleman" be removed permanently from the sport.

And the future?

"The future for Adams is that he's gonna have those British dimples shoved so far down his throat that they'll grace his other pair of cheeks," Hernandez told *Inside Wrestling*. "Look, Adams is a self-serving opportunistic pain in the can. He only looks out for himself, never anyone else. I thought I could trust him, but he turned on me. Me! His tag team partner! And let me tell you something, he sure as hell deserves what's coming to him, as far as I'm concerned!"

The majority of editors at *Inside Wrestling* agree with Hernandez.

"Anyone who has ever extended their hand to Adams in friendship has gotten a slap in the face and a superkick on the chin for his trouble," observed Senior Editor Bill Apter.

"Adams has reached a point in his career where he's got to have some sense knocked into him," noted Associate Editor Craig Peters. "He's like a spoiled kid. Somebody does something he doesn't like, he throws a tantrum and starts a feud. He's got to grow up."

"It's Adams alone against everyone in the World Class area right now," Managing Editor Stu Saks said. "I can't think of anyone who would team with him on a regular basis, or who would even run into the ring to bail him out if he should get into some serious trouble. I never wish phys-

(Continued on page 64)

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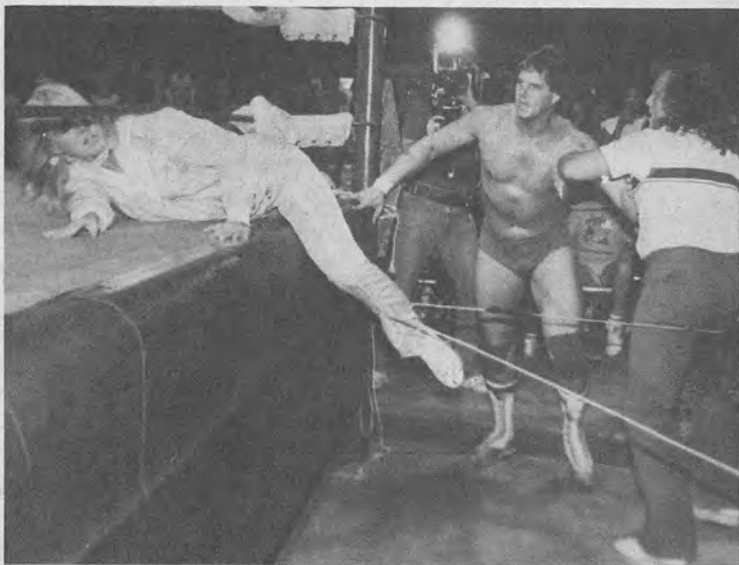
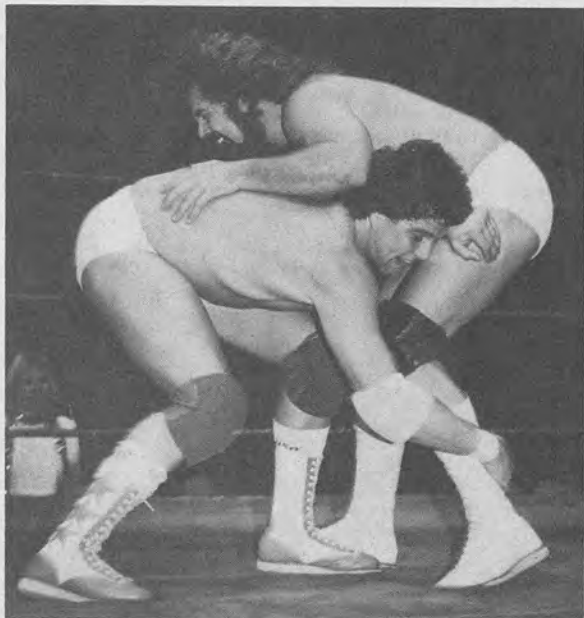
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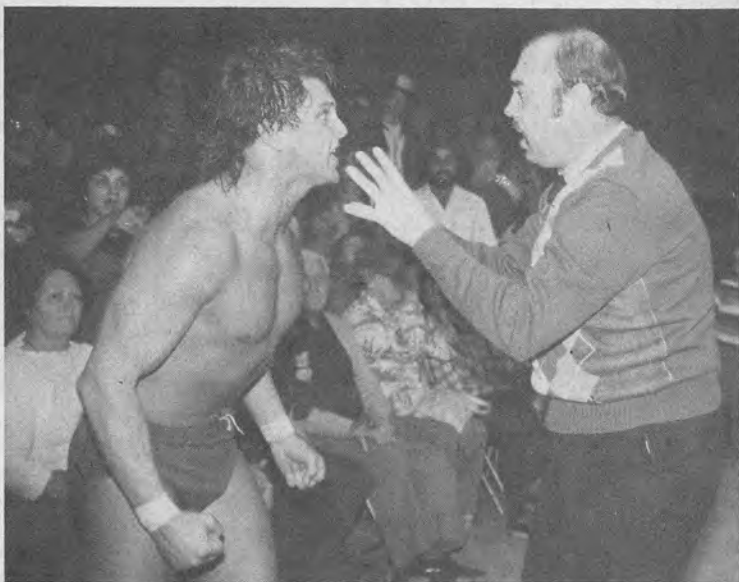
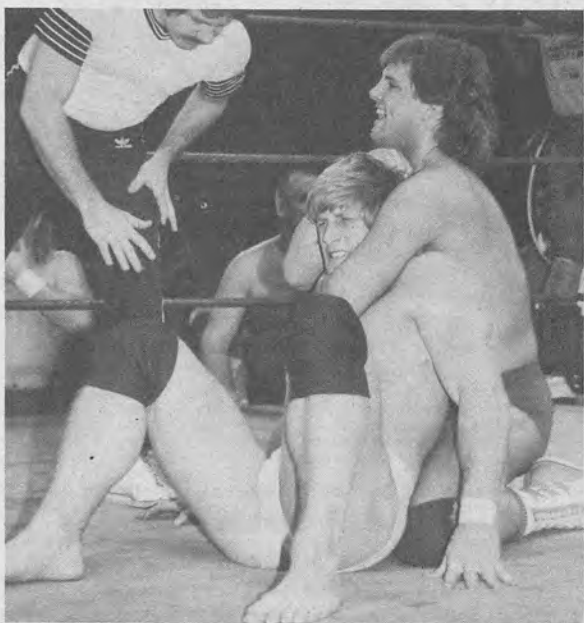


CHRIS ADAMS

(Continued from page 62)



CHRIS-CROSSING: All former friends and allies, the following became Chris Adams' sworn enemies: Gorgeous Jim Garvin (above left), Sunshine (above right), Kevin Von Erich (bottom left), and Gary Hart (bottom right).



ical injury on any man, but I have to say that it's time for the World Class area to treat Adams like the spoiled brat he is and give him the spanking he needs. Adams has crossed everyone who has offered him friendship; he deserves what's coming to him as a way of teaching him a lesson."

The editorial staff of *Inside Wrestling* believes that Adams needs to be taught a lesson, but nobody is willing to go on the record and state exactly how far

anyone in the World Class area should go in order to teach him that lesson.

Nobody, that is, except Assistant Editor Eddie Ellner.

"The Kevin-Adams feud has been a blight on the sport for almost two years, and it's time it came to an end," Ellner said. "Adams is a wrestler of championship caliber, but he does need to have some sense knocked into him. I'd like to see Kevin put Adams out of wrestling for a few

months. Not a career-threatening injury, mind you, but something just serious enough to give Adams something to think about, and a few months to do that thinking.

"Yeah, Adams does deserve what's coming to him," Ellner concluded. "But when it finally comes his way, and some good sense is shaken into his head, I'll bet we see a Chris Adams whose talents and attitude leave everyone else in the World Class area choking on his dust." □

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If you don't think so, just watch what turns women's heads on the beach. They get turned on by well-built guys. They're the ones with the prettiest girls. It's a rare fellow who doesn't want to look good in his clothes and is happy with a skinny frame, who has not envied men who weighed a little more, had a better appetite and generally displayed a physical fitness that spoke of health and well-being. True, while doctors and nutrition specialists warn against being fat, very little is said about the equal or greater evils of being underweight. So there's more to it than cosmetic aspects. Skinny is not only unattractive. It is also unhealthful. Gaining weight could mean gaining health for you.

GAIN STAMINA AND SELF-CONFIDENCE TOO.

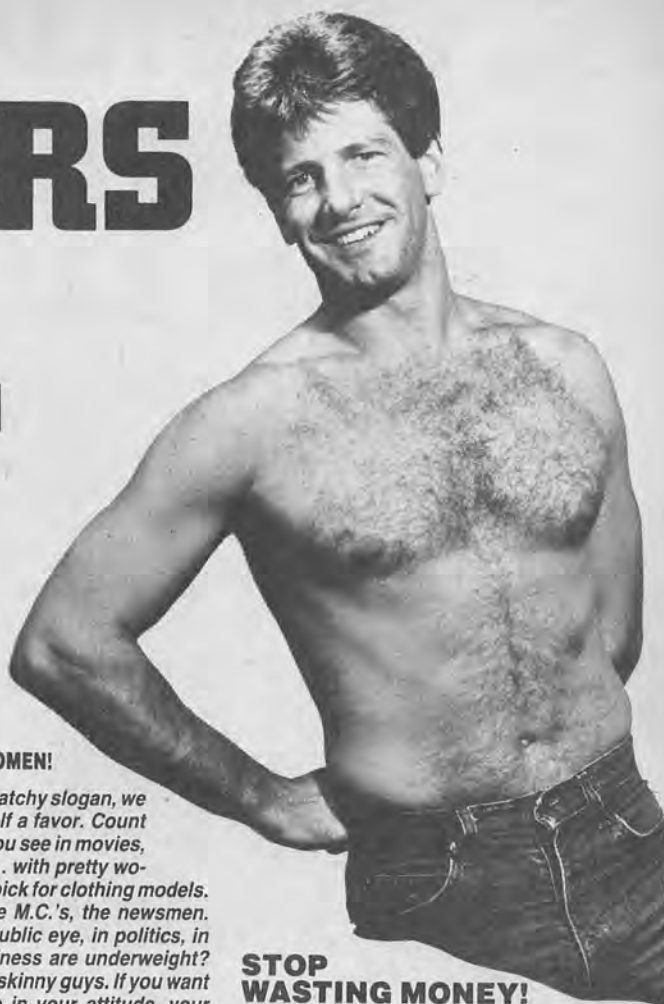
Skinny men are not great lovers. That's a known fact. Add a few pounds and you'll be amazed how it will improve your love-life. Women know this and are conscious of the fact that skinny men can't go the distance. The race is to the strong, the saying goes. And the fellow who is handsomest doesn't look like a stand-in for the family skeleton. Many a man found that gaining a few more pounds has helped him overcome chronic illness, major or minor. Many a doctor has prescribed gaining weight. But so little is publicized about skinny men. The great amount of publicity given to coronary problems has brought the bulk of weight attention to those men who weigh too much. Men who weigh too little never really get equal time. But their problem is no less serious.

GAIN WEIGHT! GAIN WOMEN!

*If you think that's just a catchy slogan, we hope you will do yourself a favor. Count how many skinny men you see in movies, or on TV or anywhere . . . with pretty women. Notice whom they pick for clothing models. See the announcers, the M.C.'s, the newsmen. How many men in the public eye, in politics, in leadership roles in business are underweight? Not even astronauts are skinny guys. If you want to experience a change in your attitude, your business progress, your lifestyle, see what 5, 10, 15 pounds can do for you. See how it adds to your personal esteem, your confidence and, best of all, your well-being. Your day will come . . . and thank your lucky stars, it's within sight with *ShapeUp* working for you.*

LOOK BETTER AND FEEL BETTER WHILE YOU GAIN

In these times when women are free to express themselves and pick and choose their men, you don't need a handicap . . . especially when it's so easy to put yourself in the forefront of competition. Why not look your best? And you will if you feel your best. And you'll feel your best when you gain the kind of nutrition that builds your body to its highest potential. Everyone knows that a healthy body brings a healthy mind and the kind of outlook that makes you want to kick up your heels . . . and go out and lick the world. Yes, with *ShapeUp*, you give yourself a super-lift of confidence, built into its wondrous formula, that's compounded to perk you up and give you a winning attitude.



STOP WASTING MONEY!

Here's a low-cost way!

Some fellows, who've been trying hard to gain weight, resort to all sorts of methods to do so: professional exercise sessions, costly nutritional regimens, large investments in health foods, time-consuming weight-building programs. Yet, here, at an extremely affordable price, you are offered a product so elementary, so easy-to-take, yet so effective we offer it to you without any greater effort than filling out and mailing a coupon. You don't even have to go to a store for it. And unlike any other method, product, means or procedure, we **GUARANTEE** *ShapeUp* to the point of total freedom from risk of any kind.

NO GAIN! NO PAY! WE ABSOLUTELY GUARANTEE IT!

Your money back without any strings whatsoever. Try *ShapeUp* for 30 days. It does as we say or you get a full refund.

DEER CREEK PRODUCTS, INC. Dept. No. GM58
P.O. Box 754, Pompano Beach, Florida 33061

Please send me the amount of *ShapeUp* indicated in the box to the right. If not satisfied, I understand you will refund my money. I am adding \$1 for postage and handling.

Name

Address

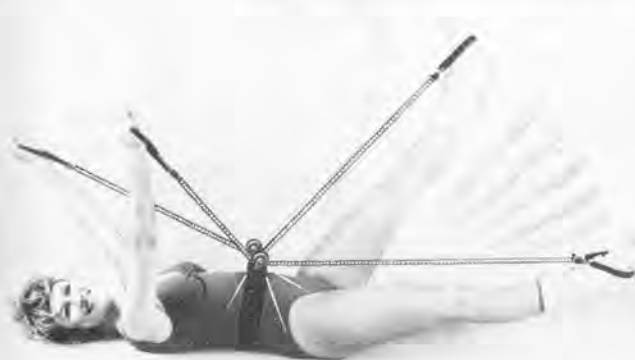
City State Zip

Copyright 1984 Deer Creek Products, Inc.

☐ Send me the 30-Tablets size for \$7.95

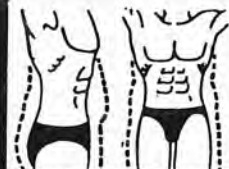
☐ Send me the 60-Tablets size for \$12.75

...IN JUST 5 FUN MINUTES A DAY!



FOR WOMEN! A
STUNNING, FLAT,
STREAMLINED TUMMY

Introducing Ike Berger's, an Olympic Gold Medalist's, amazing new **BELLY BLASTER™**...designed to whip the most stubborn cases of midriff bulge, fat and flab.



FOR MEN!
A ROCK-HARD,
LEAN STOMACH

An Olympic Champion Discovers SYNOTENSION™

We know that ugly "stomach bulge" results from fat, flabby, weak stomach muscles caused by today's soft, easy living and lack of vigorous physical work or exercise. This can be corrected by exhausting situps and leg lifts OR by using the speed method accidentally found. By having the arms and legs work simultaneously in "tandem tension"—I discovered that the speeded-up results dramatically cut my daily exercise time to a fraction of what it used to be. Better yet, it became fun, instead of dull, exhausting drudgery.

The Science of SYNOTENSION™

The scientific reason for this amazing result was later explained to me. It's called SYNOTENSION™—meaning that when you combine the method of synchronizing the tension-generating power of arms + legs—you get a greater muscle toning power than either of them separately—and much faster too! Using the principle of SYNOTENSION™, I designed the **BELLY BLASTER™** specially constructed to employ this amazing principle of body dynamics. And boy, does it work... it virtually "blasts away" at weak, belly fat and flab to sculpture a midsection that you can't wait to "show off" at the beach... and in just five fun minutes a day—not hours of exhausting, strenuous workouts. In addition to reshaping and toning your body, a FREE accompanying easy to follow diet plan will help speed up weight loss, if weight loss is one of your objectives, to speed away ugly, embarrassing fat & flab.

WORKS ON ARMS/LEGS TOO (Secondary Effect) Simultaneously with its powerful effect on the stomach

shape-up, it's hard at work on slimming, firming, toning legs and arms too!

TENSION EFFECT SELF-REGULATING. User's arms and legs can regulate tension level to suit individual's needs.

FITS ANY SIZE WAIST. Velcro/adjustable waist belt accommodates any waist size.

FULLY PORTABLE. Slips easily into pocket or purse.

BONUS AEROBIC EFFECT. Without harmful effect of jogging, etc., from reclining position.

Pat. Pend.

GUARANTEE

IRON-CLAD 30 DAY MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

In just a few days you must actually begin to see measurable, real results... or your money back, promptly, without question.

—SEND TODAY!—

IMPROVEMENT PRODUCTS CORP., Dept. BB3
535 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y. 10017

If the Belly Blaster unit can really start shaping me up in just days, and I mean ALL OVER (legs, thighs, hips, waist), I will keep it and use it...otherwise, I will want a full refund. Rush Belly Blaster to me.

I enclose \$9.95 (plus \$1.50 for P&H). NY residents add sales tax: NYC 8%, NYS 5%. **Save \$1.00!** Order 2 and send \$18.90 plus \$1.50 P&H.

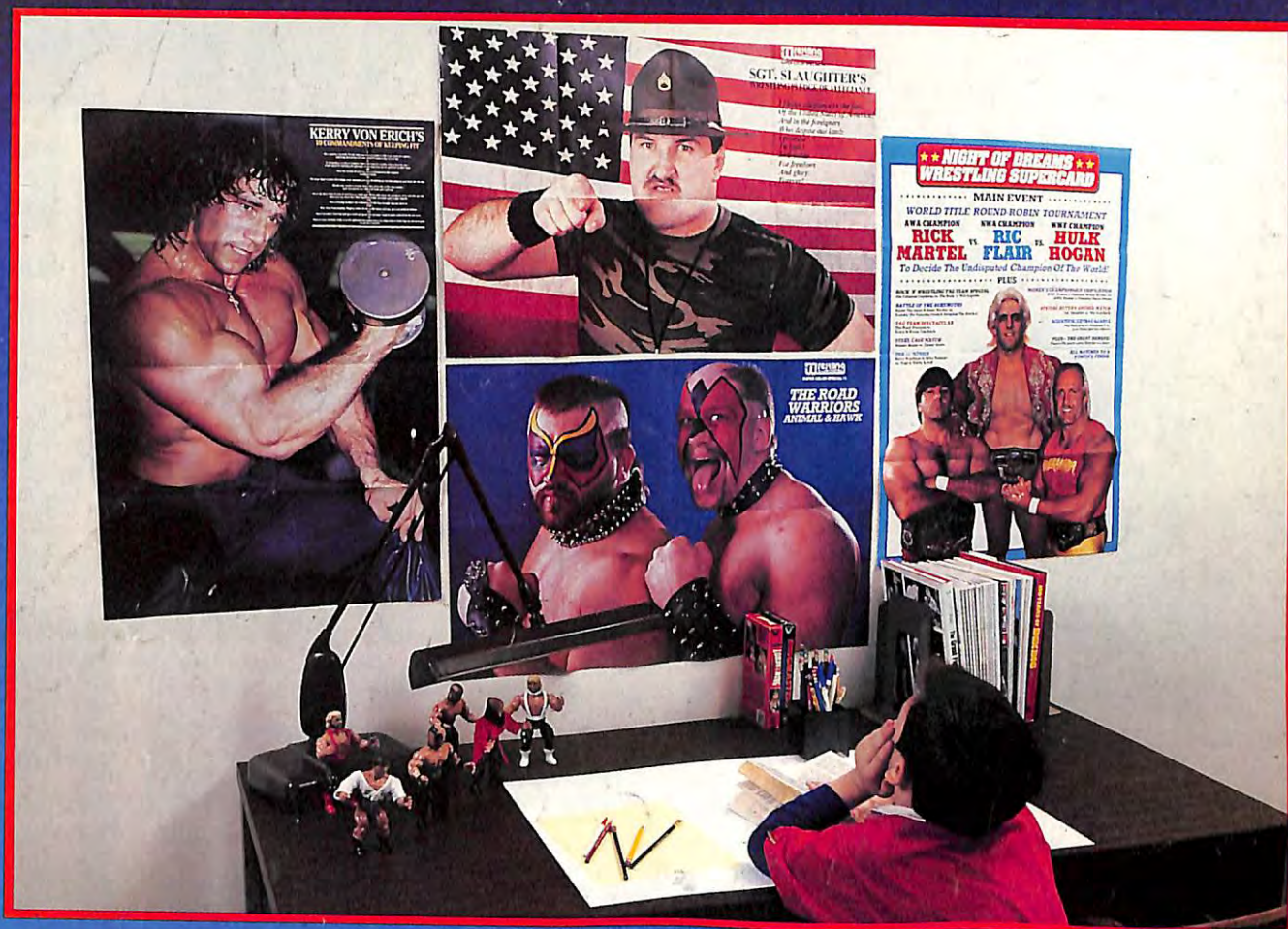
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This is the biggest offer in wrestling. A 4-pack of our giant Super Color Specials is perfect for every wrestling fan. Each Super Color Special contains articles and news on the top stars in the sport. But the *biggest* thrill is when you unfold this magazine: Each Super Color Special features

PRO Wrestling
ILLUSTRATED

a giant, 8-page, 22" x 32" SuperCenterfold (four times the size of a regular PWI centerfold)! In all, you receive more than 19 square feet of colorful wrestling excitement.

And the best news of all is the price. You receive four Super Color Specials for the incredibly low price of \$10.00.

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I enclose \$10 for each 4-pack I'm ordering.

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